2016 County O’Rama!

Saturday, April 23rd will be the County O’Rama at the HSC Fairgrounds. This year all the competitive events will happen in one day.

We will begin the morning at 9:00 with BB Gun Shooting, Baitcasting, and Bicycle. We will take a break for lunch around 12. The Hot Spring County EHC ladies will be sponsoring lunch.

At 1:00 we will start talks & demonstrations.

The Broiler BBQ Contest will be Thursday, March 31st at 6:00 p.m. You need to call the office to sign up for grilling either chicken or turkey by Monday, March 14th.

We would love to see everyone in county come out and enjoy the day with us. Cloverbuds are eligible to compete at the county level.

If you are interested in participating in County O’Rama Big B events or talks and demos, call the office to sign up by Friday, April 15th.

Poultry Chain Mandatory Meeting— Tuesday, March 15th

Tuesday, March 15th is a mandatory meeting for everyone participating in the poultry chain this year.

Dr. Dustan Clark, the U of A Extension Poultry Veterinarian, will be there to discuss biosecurity and safe management practices for the poultry chain.

This meeting is at 6:00 at the 4-H Center in Malvern.

Each 4-Her participating in the program is encouraged to attend and at least one adult from each participating family is required to attend.

Only those participating in the training will be allowed to order chickens.
County, District, & State Fair Updates

If you are planning on showing an animal at the fair this year, Rachel needs to know ASAP. County Fair will be Tuesday, September 6th–Saturday, September 10th. Ownership deadlines will be 30 days prior to the fair.

District Fair will be September 27th–Saturday, October 1st.

The Arkansas State Fair will be October 14th–23rd this year.

If you are showing a market steer, you must order your Animal ID kit by Monday, May 9th. If you are showing a market lamb, goat, or hog, your Animal ID kit must be ordered by Friday, July 8th. These are ordered through the county office.

Ownership deadlines for market steers is May 15th and for market lambs, goats, and hogs is July 1st.

The State Spring Show will be April 28th-30th and you must be registered online by Friday, April 15th. When you go online Whoever goes online to complete the exhibitors registration will have to have the exhibitors social security #, date of birth, etc., and also Scrapie tag # if entering Sheep. There will be no onsite entries.

T Shirt Design Contest

The Teen Leaders Club has opened a T-Shirt design contest open to everyone in the county! This T-Shirt would be county wide to wear for local and state level events.

These entries must contain the official U of A 4-H logo, pictured on the left. This design should be featured on the pocket or on the sleeve.

Designs can be hand drawn or computer generated. Designs should be submitted to the county extension office by Friday, April 1st. They can also be emailed to Rachel at rlbearden@uaex.edu.

The Teen Leaders will vote on the entries, and the winner will receive a free T-Shirt.

Meet the Agent— Brad McGinley

Q: Why did you want to become a County Extension Agent?
A: I enjoy helping people and I get to do that everyday as an Extension Agent. I also grew up helping my grandparents on their truck patch in Saline County. This sparked my interest in agriculture, and started me down this career path.

Q: What is your background experience with 4-H?
A: I have been a County Extension Agent for 12 years and have worked in 4 different counties. I have worked in Stone, Fulton, Montgomery, and now Grant County.

Q: What is your specialty area and what do enjoy most about it?
A: I would have to say my specialty would be STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). I like learning new technology and really enjoying the challenge of engineering.

Q: What is your favorite 4-H activity? Why?
A: I have lots of favorites but if I have to say the Arkansas Beef Quiz Bowl is one of my favorites. It gives kids confidence in themselves and helps them to think quickly on their own.

Q: What do you enjoy the most about working with 4-Hers?
A: One of the most rewarding aspects of working with 4-H, is to see a 4-H member grow in their confidence and become a respectable, young person who is a leader within their community. This to me is what 4-H is all about. Helping to train our members to be productive members of society.

Q: What is the best advice you have for a 4-Her?
A: One of the things that will make you successful in life is to learn how to interact with people in a positive way or have good people skills. This means always be respectful, helpful, and courteous to everyone. If you treat people the way you want to be treated, it will take you a long ways in life.
Spotlight 4-H Event: Beef Quiz Bowl Competes at the U of A!

The Beef Quiz Bowl team traveled to Fayetteville on Friday, February 26th.

The team is made up of freshmen Witt Walters of Golden Horseshoe, Troy Ray III of Rockin’ L, Charli Vincent of Magnet Cove, and junior Erica Canada of Magnet Cove. This was the first year for everyone to compete in this contest.

These four have been practicing since December to get ready for this contest.

This team was fortunate enough to not only be sponsored by the 4-H Foundation to attend this contest but the Hot Spring County Cattlemen’s Association as well.

Without the parents of these four continuously helping coach and encouraging them, this team would not have been possible.

The team made it to the fourth round of competition. In one round, they completely shut out the other team, leaving them with a score of zero.

After the competition, they were able to take a tour of the Dorothy E. King Equine Pavilion and the University of Arkansas Campus. They also participated in a Livestock Judging Contest and Workshop.

Spotlight 4-H Community Service: Pleasant Hill—Pancake Breakfast

The Foundation Pancake Breakfast was a huge success. While several clubs participated in the morning activities and selling tickets.

Pleasant Hill had the largest percentage of club attendance at the breakfast and sold more tickets than all the other clubs combined.

This was an excellent fundraiser for the Hot Spring County Foundation, Inc. Without the help of Pleasant Hill and all the other clubs and foundation members who contributed, this event would not have been possible.

Cloverbud, Drake McMillan says, “I like being in 4-H because it’s fun. I get to see my friends and help people at the pancake breakfast.”

For Club President Faith Harmon, “4-H provides the opportunity for me to help my community and it builds character and confidence.”

Cloverbuds, Drake McMillan and Cooper Collins enjoying the pancake breakfast.
Thank you to everyone who came out to help with the Foundation Pancake Breakfast and Auction. These were both very successful programs for our county fundraising. We will be able to use those funds over the next year for a variety of programs and activities!

This month we would like to welcome our new interim staff chair, Brad McGinley! Brad is also the Grant County Staff Chair, and we are very excited that he will be working with our county.

If you would like to receive your newsletter via email—please email rlbearden@uaex.edu! If you have questions or comments, please let us know!

Thank you,

Rachel Bearden
County Extension Agent—Agriculture/4-H

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