Welcome to a New 4-H Year

Another 4-H year is coming to a close and another is about to begin. Now is when 4-H members reenroll and we always encourage new enrollment. All past members are encouraged to reenroll through 4-H Online.

This edition of Monroe Minders will look back on some of the activities our 4-H youth have participated in as well as give important dates to mark on your calendars. October 1 starts our new 4-H year. National 4-H Week, One Day of Service, officer elections, and much, much more kick off our new year. Monroe Co 4-H has lots of exciting things planned for the 2015-16 year. So get yourself ready for another great year with 4-H!!

September Is 4-H Re-enrollment
All active and new 4-H members need to go to 4-H Online before Sept. 28
- Sept. 3 Circuit Board Club Meeting 4pm
- Sept. 21 Picture with Judge Taylor 5pm, Judge’s Office
- Sept. 21 Monroe Clovers Club Meeting 6pm
- Sept. 20-26 District Fair, Jonesboro

Monroe County Due Dates & Activities

Oct 20
Monroe Clovers Club Meeting 6pm

Oct. 5
Circuit Board Club Meeting 4pm

Oct. 13 & 14
J.O. Pistol Match 4-H Center

Nov. 21
4-H Officer Training 9-10
4-H Record book Training to Follow. Place to be announced

Nov. 16
Monroe Clovers Club Meeting 6pm

Dec. 3
Circuit Board Club Meeting 4pm

Dec. 4 & 5
J.O. Air Rifle Match 4-H Center

Dec. 7
Brinkley Christmas Parade

Sept. 17-19
State Shooting Sports Instructor Training

October 1 Starts the New 4-H Year
Oct. 1 Circuit Board Club Meeting 4pm
Oct. 4 Brinkley Fest Oct. 4-10 National 4-H Week Oct. 5 4-H Shooting Sports & 4-H sign-up meeting. Brinkley Chamber of Commerce 6pm Oct. 10 4-H Day at State Fair Fair runs Oct. 9-18 Oct. 12 4-H County Leaders Meeting 6pm. Brinkley Farm Bureau Oct 17 4-H National Youth Science Day Activity, Brinkley United Methodist Church 9-11am Sign up by Oct. 12

4-H Mission
The mission of 4-H is to provide opportunities for youth to acquire knowledge, develop life skills, form attitudes, and practice behavior that will enable them to become self-directing, productive, and contributing members of society.

All meetings and activities announced in this newsletter are open to all youth between the ages of 5 and 19.
On September 1, 2015 all Arkansas 4-H members 4-H Online status was set to inactive. Every year at this time we are required to update 4-H member, leader and volunteer information. This updating process has been done in the past by filling out enrollment papers on each person. By updating the information online, we will be able to eliminate all the paper copies and reduce the time it takes to update information.

We need everyone to go to https://arkansas.4honline.com to update your information so we can reactivate your account. Chrome browser is best to work in 4-H Online. All 4-H Re-enrollment needs to be completed before Sept. 28. Each Monroe County 4-H Family should have received an email or mailed letter with directions for logging onto 4-H Online and updating your information.

If you have any questions or do not have access to the internet, please contact the office at 747-3397. Someone will be glad to assist you.

O-Rama Filled Summer

There are three levels of 4-H O-Rama competitive programs; County, District, and State. At the county level, 4-H members of all ages can try their hand at many different O-Rama events. This year’s Monroe County 4-H O-Rama, held in May, included Bicycle, Bait Casting, BB/Gun Safety, Talent/Vocal, Sport Fishing, Horticulture, Crop & Weed ID, and Illustrated Talks. Events were held on two different days. A total of 13 Monroe County 4-H members participated over the two days. Junior and senior 4-H members advanced to the Delta District 4-H O-Rama held June 18 in Forrest City.

Five Monroe County 4-Hers competed at the District O-Rama. These youth competed in five different areas and brought home one first place trophy and three second place ribbons. Junior members who competed were: Lee York, Sport Fishing 2nd place, Mariam Shelton, Speech in Health 2nd place, Gracelyn Caplener, Preforming Arts-Vocal 1st place and Lauralee Jarrett, Gun Safety & BB Gun Marksmanship participation.

Senior member Zainab Shah, won 2nd place at the district competition and advanced to State 4-H O-Rama held in July on the U of A campus in Fayetteville. Zainab’s speech was in Innovative Technology and her topic was robotics.

Field Trips with Circuit Board Club

No summer would be complete without a trip filled with fun and learning. Of course I’m talking about a field trip. Members of the Circuit Board 4-H Club explored Little Rock attractions not on the 10 most visited places of the town but definitely ones to spark the imagination.

A comic book shop, The Collector’s Edition, was their first stop where they visited with shop owner, comic book artist and writer Michael Tierney to learn about the world of comic books. Next stop, Argenta Branch of the Laman Public Library where they learned the building was originally North Little Rock’s main U.S. Post Office. Members were then taken across the street to HDMS Architects where they met with Andrew McCauley, a principal of the firm to learn about becoming an architect.

The members final stop for the day was the Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub to learn about 3D printers and much more. Joel Gordon, director of the Launch Pad, a part of the Hub,
allowed members to work with a 3-D doodle pen and software to create three-dimensional objects which could then be printed on a 3-D printer. The members watched as a 3-D printer worked on a project. The Little Rock visit concluded with a stop at The Art Connection, another part of the Innovation Hub which hires high school students to create art.

The trip to Little Rock was exciting and very much a learning experience but it would not be the only trip these 4-H'ers would take before summers end.

In August, 16 members and guests of the Brinkley 4-H Circuit Board Club toured the exhibit "The Art of the Video Game" at the Brooks Museum in Memphis.

Two great trips and two great learning activities. Everyone had a great time and got to experience loads of new things. Thank you to all the leaders and parents for making these trips possible.

Where will 4-H take you next?

Joel Gordon (far right holding a phone), director of the Launch Pad, had the members work with a 3-D doodle pen and software. (Photo courtesy of Barbara Sawrie)

September is Fair Time

Getting ready for the fair started in July this year for several Monroe County 4-H members. The Saturday morning activities designed to give 4-H members things to entered in the Tri-County Fair Sept. 5 included painted piggy bank, Christmas tree ornaments, jars of rice, art picture and jelly.

The youth learned proper techniques for making plum and scuppernong jelly. Each participant measured sugar and juice, added ingredients, stirred and timed the cooking of the jellies. The members then had to ladle the hot liquid into their prepared jars and timed the water bath needed to properly seal and preserve their jellies.

All the youth had a great time and left with six items ready to enter in the fair.

The Tri-County Fair took place Sept. 7-12 at the fair grounds in Marvell. I am proud to say Monroe County 4-H was represented well at the fair. There were around 20 members who entered items in the fair. Art work, photography, field crops, animals, and crafts to name a few. The youth made over $600 from their entries. The 4-H promotional booth took 2nd place and we had two youth bring home Best of Show ribbons.

Congratulations to all of the youth for their hard work and participation in the Tri-County Fair.

Haylee pours the juice to make the jelly.


Joel Gordon (far right holding a phone), director of the Launch Pad, had the members work with a 3-D doodle pen and software. (Photo courtesy of Barbara Sawrie)
Monroe County 4-H started September off with a celebration and recognition of accomplishments and hard work in the 2014-2015 4-H year. Twenty-five members, leaders and guests gathered in Clarendon on September 4th for the Monroe County 4-H Banquet.

The banquet started with the singing of the National Anthem sung by Gracelyn Caplener. Mae York, MC for the banquet, asked Lauralee Jarrett to lead the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the 4-H Pledge lead by Lee York. Zackary Garrett gave the invocation. The group was then dismissed to enjoy the wonderful Mexican dishes brought by the different 4-H families. Gracelyn sang another beautiful song while everyone enjoyed their meal.

Mae York took the podium after the meal to introduce Harlee Malone to give the welcome and introduce Judge Larry Taylor with the response.

County Extension Agent, Valerie Turner introduced special guests Judge Larry Taylor and Clarendon City Council Member Diane Cunningham and thanked them for attending our celebration. Miss York introduced Zainab Shah next as our speaker. Miss Shah gave her first place State O-Rama speech in Innovative Technology titled Basic Robotics.

After Miss Shah’s informative and well executed speech, it was time for the awards and recognition to begin. Miss Turner came back to the podium to present county recognition for participation and leadership in county, district and state events. Recognition was shown in the form of pins and certificates for Cloverbuds, 4-H members, Shooting Sports, District and State O-Rama winners, county and district record book winners and 4-H Leaders.

As the evening of fun, food and 4-H family continued, Monroe County Staff Chair Van Banks, assisted by County Judge Larry Taylor, took the podium to award the Junior and Senior County Outstanding 4-H’er of the Year. This year’s winners were: Junior Members Lauralee Jarrett and Lee York and Senior Member Zainab Shah. Each winner was presented a special trophy for all of their hard work and dedication to 4-H over the past year.

The 2015 Monroe County 4-H Banquet was a success. If you were not able to attend this year, we encourage you to make every effort to attend next year’s event. For those of you who were able to attend, thank you for joining us to celebrate and recognize the hard work and dedication the youth and adults of Monroe 4-H exhibit.

Everyone did a fantastic job!! Keep up all the hard work and we hope to see everyone at next year’s Monroe County 4-H Awards and Recognition Banquet.
Calling all 4-H members and leaders for ideas on how to serve our One Day of Service! Arkansas 4-H’s “One Day of Service” will be any day in October 2015 that you and your 4-H’ers choose! 4-H Promotion month is in October so what a perfect way to promote 4-H – by serving others.

Arkansas 4-H members have always been proud of the communities they call home. Whether they live in urban or rural areas, they are contributing and caring citizens. One Day of Service is a way for all 4-H members to say “thank you” to their communities, county and state for all the support they have provided to 4-H members for more than 100 years.

One Day of Service occurs in the month of October in every county across Arkansas. It enables each 4-H member to recruit friends to help make their communities better through adopting a service project. These projects can be done as individuals or as an entire county 4-H program. Regardless of the project that is chosen, it is one day to make a difference!

Last year Monroe County 4-H members performed community service on their own and reported their hours and projects to the office at the end of the month. This year I would like to have either a county activity or club activities if possible.

The goal of One Day of Service is to encourage 4-H members in every county in Arkansas to take one day during the month of October to make a difference in their community, county and state. Each 4-H club or county program will choose how best to ignite the spirit of service and serve Arkansas from border to border.

One Day of Service is truly your day! Youth can work independently, as a group or hand-in-hand with adults to serve your community. The service project can be as small as mowing the lawn of someone in need or helping to develop the next innovative service project for the community. Whatever it is, it is your one day to make a difference.

Through One Day of Service, youth in our community can see what 4-H does, how it serves others and how much fun you have when 4-H’ers get together.

I encourage all of you to come up with a way you, your club or our county 4-H can perform a day of service. Let Ms. Valerie know of your ideas or plans by Sept. 30. Let’s work together to make our day of service shine.

October is 4-H promotion month. Things get a big kick off with National 4-H Week Oct. 4-10. Monroe County will start by meeting with Monroe County Judge Larry Taylor to have him sign a proclamation declaring Oct. 4-10 National 4-H Week in Monroe County. A picture of the group and an article about Monroe 4-H will run in the county newspaper. All 4-H members are encouraged to meet by 4:50pm at the judge’s office on Monday, Sept. 21 for the picture.

Other suggested activities include: October 5- Media Day!!! Provide the local newspaper with articles written by members, volunteers, alumni and donors or do PSA about 4-H at your local radio station.

October 6- Wear Green Day!!! Wear your favorite green shirt or 4-H shirts. Tell everyone you meet why you are wearing green.

October 7- Citizenship Day!!! Host an “appreciation day” for police officers, the fire department, elected officials, city/county employees, teachers, or others.

October 8- Make a 4-H Video Day!!! Have 4-H’ers make a promotional video or Podcast. Post on the county or state website or YouTube

October 9- Donor & Supporter’s Recognition Day!!! Have 4-H’ers write thank you notes; Mail them a DVD or pictures of the past year’s 4-H highlights or Distribute One Million Dollar candy bars with a note You’re worth more than this. Thanks for being a friend to 4-H.

October 10- Local Restaurant Day!!! Select 2 to 3 restaurants in your county and place 4-H promotional place mats in the restaurants.

If any of these ideas sound like a fun way to promote 4-H or you have your own ideas, let’s get together and promote 4-H in our county.
Arkansas State Fair

The 76th annual Arkansas State Fair is right around the corner! The dates are October 9-18, 2015.

Please join us for 4-H Day at the State Fair on Saturday, October 10. On this day, 4-H'ers will have the opportunity to view the exhibits and take part in the following 4-H activities: 4-H Entomology Exhibits, 4-H Giant Pumpkin & Watermelon Contest and much more. There is a 4-H Poultry BBQ Cook-off to be held Sunday, October 11 at 11:00 AM. Don't forget to stop by the 4-H Promotional & Interactive Activity Booth, open October, 9-18 at the Hall of Industry.

Registration is available at https://arkansas.4honline.com. The deadline to register is Wednesday, September 30th.

If you would like to volunteer at the 4-H Booth, please sign up by Friday, September 25th. You can sign up to work by emailing Ms. Valerie at vturner@uaex.edu.

Multi State 4-H Leader Forum to be Offered

Registration is open for the 4-H Volunteer U Multi-State Conference!! I want to encourage all volunteers to attend.

November 13-15 4-H Volunteer U Multi-State Conference to be held at the 4-H Center.

To register, go to: http://forms.uaex.edu/MultiState. Registration will close October 25, 2015.

The Conference will include sessions on 4-H club management, STEM programs, Healthy Living programs and Citizenship/Leadership programs. The conference is open to all volunteers, parents or Extension personnel who would like to network with and learn from 4-H volunteers from Arkansas and surrounding states. Fulltime Registration will be between $175 - $195; part-time will be $65 - $75. Registrants can pay by Credit Card or send in their registration form with a check.

The conference will be a great opportunity to network with adults from other states interested in developing youth, volunteers and the 4-H program. Sessions will be taught by experienced volunteers and Extension staff.

A Monroe County 4-H Science Day has been scheduled for October 17 from 9-11a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Brinkley.

Come join all the fun while taking part in experiments such as "Stop & Go," "Reaction Time" and "Mass vs. Friction." Please call the office (870-747-3397) to register for the event by Monday, Oct. 12.

4-H National Youth Science Day (NYSD) is an exciting, interactive learning experience that engages thousands of youth across the country in conducting the National Science Experiment. The national 4-H NYSD event will take place on October 7, 2015 in Washington, D.C.

The 2015 National Science Experiment, Motion Commotion, explores the science of motion through the relationship of speed and stopping distance. The activity extends to real-world investigations on reaction time and safety, making connections to the dangers of distracted driving. You can also check out the web page above for more information.

http://www.4-h.org/4-h-national-youth-science-day/
Leaders always needed.

4-H is a volunteer led organization! A 4-H volunteer is defined as any adult that works directly with 4-H youth. These volunteers are caring and committed people that understand the value of selfless service. They have a willingness to serve both youth and families in our community, and are the “backbone” of the 4-H program. These wonderful individuals all have a unique set of skills and experiences they truly enjoy sharing with 4-H youth! If you are interested in becoming a 4-H Volunteer Leader, please contact the Monroe County Cooperative Extension Office.

Shooting Sports Sign-up

The Monroe County 4-H Shooting Sports program is the place to learn more than gun safety and proper shooting techniques; it’s a place to make friends from across the state and learn life skills.

The Monroe Shootin’ Clovers shined at BB and expanded their shooting knowledge to include air rifle and air pistol. Two youth performed well in the November State JO Air Rifle match. Nine youth shot their best at the State BB Match in February. March offered two competitive events for shooters. We had four to shoot at the State JO/PPP Air Pistol. The three person JR team took 3rd place and our SR shooter improved greatly from her practice scores. The March State JO Air Rifle proved to be a great learning experience for two of our youth. July was State 4-H Range Events. Those who compete at this event have a chance to go on to the 4-H National event. We had two girls compete in air pistol and performed beautifully.

In October we will have sign-up and start practicing again and start offering archery. 4-H Shooting Sports Events include November Air Pistol Match, December Air Rifle Match, BB Match in February and Range Events in July. These competitions are held at the 4-H Center in Little Rock.

All 4-H youth interested in participating in either the BB, Air Rifle, Air Pistol or Archery programs should contact the County Extension Office.

A County wide sign-up for 4-H Shooting Sports will be held Oct. 5 at the Brinkley Chamber of Commerce from 6-7 p.m.

4-H Events Packet

For information regarding upcoming 4-H state camps and events check out the 2015 Events Packet online. You will find a calendar of events including important deadlines, leadership opportunities and trips for youth, award information, scholarship applications, O-Rama guidelines, etc.

http://www.kidsarus.org/go4it/Activities_Events/default.htm

ARKANSAS

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SHOOTING SPORTS

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Program areas include:
- Agricultural Production & Processing
- Environment, Energy & Climate
- Access to Safe & Nutritious Food
- Increasing Opportunities For Families & Youth
- Economic & Community Development

Stop by your Monroe County Extension Office today for more information.

How can we serve you?

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