**Monroe County 4-H Takes Second at State BB Match**

The seven Monroe County 4-H youth members and their coaches were all smiles as they took the stage to receive their second place team medals at the 2016 State BB Match held February 5 & 6 at the Arkansas 4-H Center in Little Rock. The competition is open to all youth ages eight to 15 who have completed the Daisy Shooting Education Program or an “equivalent” safety course of instruction. The match consists of 40 shots for record, fired at five meters in four stages with a 10 minute limit for each stage. The four positions or stages are prone, standing, sitting, and kneeling. There is also a written test. Each stage and the test are equal to 100 points for a total of 500 points possible. This is the third year for Monroe County 4-H to compete in the State BB Match.

The team started practices in October and practiced two nights a week. For three of the shooters this was their first shooting competition and for a couple, October marked the first time they ever shot a gun. All shooters out did their practice averages, a couple even doubled their practice averages in one or more positions. The seven Monroe County 4-H youth competed against more than 160 shooters making up 30 teams. The Monroe Shootin’ Clovers, as the team is called, is comprised of Ashley M., Mae Y., Lee Y., John Owen W., Harlee M., alternates Sarah J. and Adele W., coach Robert Jarrett, spotter Chad McLain, and coach and County Extension Agent Valerie Turner.

In addition to bringing home second place team medals, two shooters brought home individual medals. Lee Y. won 3rd overall individual in the prone position. In the Alternate’s category, Sarah J., 3rd in prone, 1st in sitting and 3rd overall Alternate.

The fun and hard work is not over for these seven youth and their coaches. Winning second place at the State BB Match entitles them to be one of three teams who will represent Arkansas at the Daisy National BB Gun Championship Match in July 2016.

Congratulations to all the shooters and coaches for a job well done and good luck at nationals!
The youth and coaches of the Monroe County 4-H Shooting team would like to say thank you to the City of Clarendon and the Brinkley Chamber of Commerce for providing places for the group to practice and the financial support of NRA, Monroe County Conservation District and the citizens of Monroe County.

For more information about 4-H, contact the Monroe County Extension office at 870-747-3397. The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.