October is National 4-H Month and also time for re-enrollment or enrollment for all 4-H members. Four-H is the youth development program conducted by the University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service. Four-H is for youth ages 5-19 years of age with the clover buds being ages 5-8, juniors 9-13 and seniors 14-19. Members can select from many activities in the project areas ranging from automotive to clothing to space camp.

Adult leaders, trained by county Cooperative Extension Service faculty, teach projects to youth using the "learn-by-doing" method. Four-H teaches leadership, citizenship, and skills children will use throughout their lives. Each year Arkansas 4-H youth receive more than $80,000 in college scholarships at the state level for their 4-H work.

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.

4-H Is:
A non-formal educational program that is community based and locally determined, primarily group focused, family oriented and volunteer operated which is coordinated by professional Extension faculty.

Emblem
The 4-H emblem is a four-leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaf. The letters in the emblem stands for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health - the foundation of all 4-H programs.

Pledge
I pledge:
- My Head to clearer thinking
- My Heart to greater loyalty
- My Hands to larger service
- My Health to better living for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

Motto
"To Make the Best Better" was suggested by Miss Carrie Harrison of USDA and adopted by a committee of state and national leaders in 1912. Colors: Green - nature's most common color, symbolizes springtime, life and youth. White - symbolizes purity and high ideals. As you can see, 4-H has a lot to offer. So if you are looking for something fun and educational for your kids or you want to be a 4-H leader yourself and start your own club, give the Phillips County Cooperative Extension Service a call at 870-338-8027 for more information.

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Sincerely,

Shawn Payne
County Extension Agent-Staff Chair