HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Greetings from the Searcy County Extension Service. We hope everyone had a great Holiday Season and are now ready to start the new year with 4-H. What a Great year we have before us!

Remember Project Record Books are due in the Searcy County Extension Office by January 16, 2015. If you need any assistance from us give us a call at 870-448-3981.

Searcy County Council Officers

Congratulations to the new board of officers selected to serve on the Searcy County 4-H Council. They are:
- President—Courtney Ragland
- Vice President—Laykyn Rainbolt
- Secretary—Maddie Mathis
- Treasurer—Shakoda Hertter
- Reporter—Isabelle Horton
- Photographers—Crockett Ward, Rylee Hertter, & Ericka LeMarr
- Senior Advisor—Zac Lawson
- Junior Advisor—Grace Pepler

Congratulations to each of these officers who were selected by their peers to serve for the 2015 4-H year. Remember all club officers are encouraged to attend the council meetings and add their input on the county 4-H program. Check Searcy County 4-H Facebook page regularly for dates of meetings and other activities.

December dates 2014—

January 5, 2015— Extension returns from Christmas Holiday break
January 16, 2015— Record Books due in Searcy County office

Future things to think about—

February—Project record books are judged
February 7th— 4-H Day with the Arkansas Razorback Basketball team
February 24th— 4-H Day at the Arkansas State Capitol— Turn the Capital Green
March 1st—Teen Star & Ambassador applications due in Little Rock State office
April—Poultry Chain Delivery
April — Searcy County 4-H O’Rama
April 11-17—National 4-H Conference, Washington D.C.
May 1st— 4-H Fishing Derby stay tuned for location of this year’s derby
“4-H Day” at the Capitol

The U of A System Division of Agriculture has an awesome opportunity to showcase our youth development programs and 4-H Youth participants during ‘4-H Day” at the Capitol. Our goal is to fill the Rotunda and Galleries of the Senate and House of Representatives with our 4-H youth leaders on February 24, 2015.

We are ecstatic about the prospect of bringing visibility to what we do within the area of youth development. This event is scheduled during a school day; however, we believe that the “selling” point for this event is that it aligns very well with course work in Government, History and Social Studies.

Our desire is to fill the Capitol with as many of our young leaders as possible. In order to do this the guidelines to attend are as follows:

- Ages 12-19
- Teen Leaders
- Club officers
- 4-H Ambassadors
- 4-H Teen Stars
- 2014 Citizenship Leadership Camp participates
- 2014 County Citizenship leadership initiative participants
- Record Book winners
- State officers and Past State officers
- CWF, 4-H Congress, 4-H Conference participants

State Competitive Competition Winners

The goal is to have a minimum of 300 young people at the Capitol from across the state. This is an awesome opportunity but you must contact the Searcy County Extension Office at 870-448-3981 by January 25 if you wish to participate. Parents are responsible for travel to and from event. Shirts will be ordered from the State Office for this event. The plan is to “flood the Capitol with a sea of green”.

Razorback Basketball 4-H Recognition Day

4-H day at the Bud Walton Arena in Fayetteville is February 7, 2015. Tickets are on sale now to see Arkansas play Mississippi State. 4-H members, family and friends can purchase tickets for only $10 by going online to www.arkansasrazorbacks.com click on the link to buy tickets for Men’s Basketball and type in the Promo Code: 4HClover14

Ticket order deadline is February 5, 2015.
Junior Livestock Skills Team Forming

Searcy county Extension is now forming a Junior Livestock Skills Team for 4H members, ages 9-13, who are interested in animal care, livestock production, and/or agriculture in general. The Team meetings will be 1-2 times per month and will include fun activities, learning challenges, team problem solving, and field trips to the farm.

By utilizing informal classroom sessions, games, and technology, Junior Livestock Skills Team members will gain extensive knowledge in the production of cattle, swine, sheep, and goats according to six disciplines: 1) Breed ID, 2) Meat ID, 3) Equipment ID, 4) Feed ID, 5) Quality Assurance, and 6) Cowherd Performance. Each discipline learned gives youth the ability to identify animals by physical traits, origin, and/or usage in the ID categories. Members learn the different aspects of animal welfare such as feeding, handling, and marketing of livestock by using critical control points and record keeping. The cowherd performance area tests their knowledge in genetics, reproduction, feed conversion, and economics as they pertain to cattle production.

By being a member of the Junior Livestock Skills Team, youth will learn how important agriculture is to their world. Contact the Extension Office to register. A schedule will be released once sign-up is complete.

Entrepreneur Camp

Entrepreneur Camp (basic and advanced) registration is now OPEN at www.4honline.com.

Campers will get hands on experience creating a business. Campers will work in teams to create and implement a business plan. They will also get to hear from other entrepreneurs about what it takes to start a successful business. Campers will be introduced to different avenues for selling products they develop. Basic Campers will get an introduction to creating a business. Their teams will develop a product/service to sell to other campers. They will have to manage their finances and supplies.

Advanced Campers will get a more in depth look at business creation. They will develop business and marketing plans. This camp is also open to non 4-H members. It might be a way to recruit new members.

Please let me know if you need any more information or have any questions 870-448-3981. Deadline to enroll, February 2, 2015 cost is $155.
4-H Pledge

I PLEDGE
my HEAD
to clearer thinking, my HEART
to greater loyalty,
my HANDS
to larger service,
and my HEALTH
to better living,
for my club,
my community,
my country,
and my world.

Julie Blair CEA-Staff Chair

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