

CLOVER CONNECTION

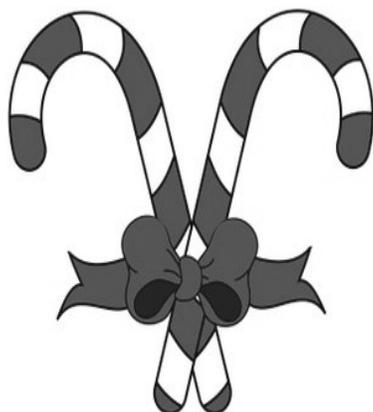
VOLUME I, ISSUE IV

DECEMBER 2016

HEMPSTEAD COUNTY 4-H NEWS



Seasons Greetings!



The holiday season is upon us! We are only a few weeks away from winter vacation here in Hempstead County. The halls are decked and the music is playing. We hope that you enjoy the time with your families during this festive time of year.

Keep making the best better!

~Whitney Rook



Don't Forget to Re-Enroll in 4-H!

4Honline.com

Don't forget to re-enroll in 4-H! Enrollment began September 1st on 4-H Online. This is for youth and volunteer leaders. **YOU MUST RE-ENROLL EVERY YEAR.** If you do not, after October 31 you will no longer receive newsletters, updates, or meeting notices. Update your current profile, including clubs that you would like to participate in.

Please call the office if you need assistance. (870) 777-5771 or email wrook@uaex.edu.



Inside this issue:

<i>Welcome</i>	1
<i>Re-Enrollment</i>	1
<i>Trainings</i>	2
<i>Record Books</i>	2
<i>Horse Club Awards</i>	2
<i>Ag Science Days</i>	3

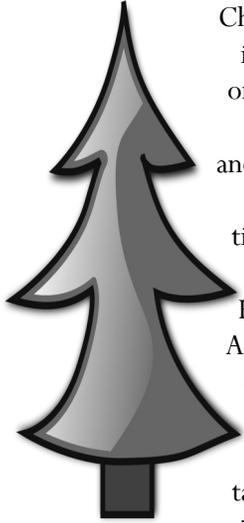
Contacts:

Terrie James: tjames@uaex.edu
Steven Sheets: ssheets@uaex.edu
Whitney Rook: wrook@uaex.edu
Office: (870) 777-5771

Trainings

As the new year is approaching, there will be information coming out about county-wide club officer trainings and volunteer leader trainings! Watch for updates!

Live Christmas Tree Care ~ Steven Sheets, Ag Agent



A fresh-cut, real Christmas tree is generally serviceable from just after Thanksgiving to somewhat after Christmas, if it is truly fresh when set up and then well cared for. If you buy a tree, but don't plan to set it up for a few days or longer, store it in a cool location out of the wind and sun. Trees dry out rapidly on warm, windy days with direct sunlight on them. Cut ½ inch from the end of the trunk and place the tree in a container of cool water to help it stay fresh. Tree trunks cut for more than six to eight hours and left out in the air are not able to absorb water, because the exposed cells become blocked. If a fresh, ½-long cross cut is made at the butt of the tree, water will again be able to move upwards. When setting up the tree, keep it away from direct sources of heat such as warm-air floor vents, operating wood stoves, fireplaces, hot lights, etc. Lowering the room temperature extends the service life of the tree. Heat makes a tree dry faster than normal. Use only approved ornamental lights that produce low heat. After you have selected a stand that can hold an ample supply of water—at least one quart for each inch of stem diameter—be sure to keep filling it. Be sure to use cool water. Additives probably do not add to the tree's life once it is cut. Larger trees obviously require more water (and a larger, heavy-duty stand). A seven-foot tree may easily use two quarts of water a day for the first week. Trees typically take a lot of water the first week or two, then slow down. If the tree runs out of water, it loses its ability to take up water and starts to dry out. At that point, you must take the tree down and make a fresh cut on the base of the stem. To avoid this, be sure to check and water the tree every day. Also allow extra water for the family dog and cat!

Record Book Information

Record books are due to the Extension Office by January 20, 2017! We will provide the covers once you turn your information in. If you have any questions or would like more help please feel free to call the office or email wrook@uaex.edu.



2016 Rowdy Young Riders Awards Banquet



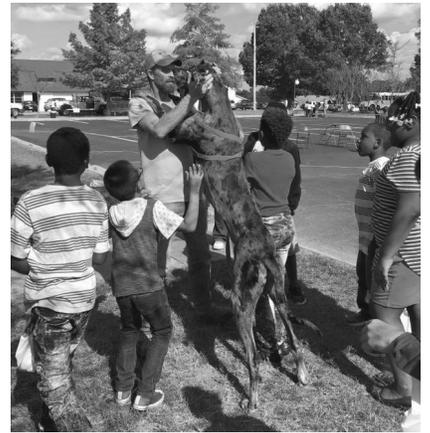
November 28th, the Rowdy Young Riders Horse Club held their Awards Banquet at the Rafter J Cowboy Church. 4-H members that participated in at least half of the play days held this fall were eligible to receive awards. Great job to each of the volunteers and participants on a successful year!



2016 Agriculture Science Days at SWREC



Ag Agent, Steven Sheets and Master Gardner, Jane Collums, teach students about electricity.



Dr. Kirkpatrick, SWREC Director, speaks to Clinton Primary 4th Graders.



HEMPSTEAD COUNTY 4-H

400 South Washington
Suite 105
Hope, Arkansas 71801

Phone: 870-777-5771
Fax: 870-777-7808
E-mail: wrook@uaex.edu

Terrie James



CEH~ Staff Chair

Steven Sheets



CEA~ Agriculture

Whitney Rook

4-H Program Assistant



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."

"El Servicio de Extensión Cooperativa de Arkansas ofrece su programa a todas las personas elegibles independientemente de su raza, color, sexo, identidad de género, orientación sexual, nacionalidad, religión, edad, discapacidad, estado civil o condición de veterano, información genética, o cualquier otro estatus protegido por la ley, y es un empleador de acción afirmativa/igualdad de oportunidades."

Make the Best Better

Cooperative Research and Extension Service

2301 S University Ave.

Little Rock, Arkansas 72204