



# Lafayette 4-H Hotline

## 4-H is for EVERYONE!

4-H is fun! 4-H is learning! 4-H offers a whole new world of opportunities for youth to learn new things, go new places, and meet new friends. After all, 4-H is the largest youth organization in the United States!

### Who can join 4-H?

Any 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grader who attends school in Lafayette Parish and is willing to follow the 4-H ideals and standards is eligible to join. Those who attend school outside of Lafayette Parish but live in Lafayette Parish are also eligible through our member-at-large program.

Lafayette will be part of a pilot of the new Louisiana 4-H Online System. The online enrollment and program management system for the coming school year. 4HOnline is an online member enrollment and program management software used by 4-H programs across the country. It is a fully integrated management system that brings together all levels of the 4-H experience. Whether it's a member logging in to manage his/her record, a volunteer leader completing their training or screening requirements, or a parent viewing the 4-H program's online event calendar, 4HOnline will bring the Louisiana 4-H community together and keep everyone involved. 4HOnline is fully encrypted; member and volunteer information are safe, backed up continuously, and fully secured.

### How do I join 4-H?

1. More information will be shared with our organizational leader and on [www.facebook.com/lafayette4h](https://www.facebook.com/lafayette4h) in the next few weeks or by September 15<sup>th</sup>.
2. All members that were previously enrolled in the program last school year, will receive an email with detailed instructions on how to create your family profile and enroll.
3. Choose **one** project. If you choose an animal project, you may choose more than one book.
4. All 4<sup>th</sup> graders must select the 'Discovering the World of 4-H' project.
5. All 5<sup>th</sup> graders must select the 'Exploring the World of 4-H' project.
6. Pay your dues. Check with your school club leader for dues amount and due date.
7. If there is a 4-H club at your school, you must be a member of that club.
8. **If you plan to participate in livestock or shooting sports, please submit your online enrollment as soon as possible and if you are new, please call the Lafayette 4-H Office for program details.**

This newsletter, the 4-H Hotline, will be distributed each month from September to May. These will be posted virtually in school clubs and on our Facebook page. If you have any questions concerning the 4-H program, call the 4-H Office at (337)291-7090.

## September 2021

Lafayette Office

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[www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)

### Points of interest:

- 4-H is for EVERYONE!
- National 4-H Week
- Junior Leaders: Calling 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders!
- Lafayette 4-H'ers on State Boards
- State Record Competition
- 4-H University Winners
- 2021 LSU AgCenter Livestock Show Validation Procedure
- Searching for Livestock Exhibitors
- Service-Learning Focus
- Become a 4-H Volunteer



# National 4-H Week

This year, National 4-H Week falls on October 3<sup>rd</sup> through October 9<sup>th</sup>. Each year, we encourage clubs to get involved with National 4-H Week through volunteerism, service-learning, and kindness to all! For more information, along with promotional materials, visit [www.4-h.org](http://www.4-h.org).



## Junior Leader: Calling 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders!

Lafayette's Junior Leader 4-H Club is made up of older 4-H'ers from across Lafayette Parish who are in grades 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. Do you have teens that would like to be involved in the community in a leadership role, but just not sure how to go about it?

The first Junior Leader meeting of the school year will be Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. All 4-H'ers in grades 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> are invited to attend. Contact Mrs. Nicole at [ngerard@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:ngerard@agcenter.lsu.edu) to register to attend or for more information.

## Lafayette 4-H'ers on State Boards

Each year, at 4-H University, 4-H members from around the state of Louisiana compete to be a part of state leadership boards. Lafayette Parish 4-H is well-represented this year; our state board members are as follows: Annaclaire Zerangue (Food and Fitness Board), Claire Harrington (Food and Fitness Board), Isabella Couvillion (Food and Fitness Board) and Laila Horton (Fashion Board).

Congratulations to these exemplary members!



## State Record Competition

This year, 29 record books were selected to compete in the State 4-H Record Book Competition. Record books are currently being judged at the State Office and results will be announced in next month's Hotline Newsletter.

# 4-H University Winners

Lafayette 4-H members earned honors, award trips, and scholarships at 4-H University in June. This event is the largest state 4-H competition of the year and is a highlight for 4-H members. Events were held in a combination of in-person and virtual contests. Thanks to all the 4-H members and leadership who helped make this event a success!

### 2021 BLUE RIBBON AND STATE WINNERS:

**4-H Has Talent:** Andrew Horton- Blue Ribbon

**Horticulture Judging- Individuals:** Dylan Landry- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Adam Long- 4<sup>th</sup> Place, Tucker Habetz- Blue Ribbon

**Horticulture Judging- Team:** Dylan Landry, Adam Long, & Tucker Habetz- State Winner

**Livestock Judging- Individuals:** Luke Domingue- State Winner, Shaohannah Martin- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Lane Johnson- 4<sup>th</sup> place, Jude Braquet- Blue Ribbon

**Livestock Judging- Team:** Luke Domingue, Lane Johnson, Shaohannah Martin- State Winner

## 2021 LSU AgCenter Livestock Show Validation Procedure

LSU Market and Commercial Animal Validation is just around the corner. All market and commercial animals are required to be validated in order to be exhibited in the Parish, District, and State LSU Livestock Shows. Animals will be tagged, DNA tested, and classified (preliminary for entries).

Validation kits are \$7.00. They are to be picked up at our office. Payment is due once DNA hair samples are collected and the kit is returned. Checks must be made payable to 'Livestock Show Office' at \$7.00 per kit per animal.

If you need assistance validating and tagging your animal, please call (337)291-7090.

All animals must be tagged and DNA samples collected and turned into the Lafayette 4-H Office prior to 4:30 p.m. on the validation deadline set by the state:

**November 8<sup>th</sup>:** Beef & Dairy Commercial Heifers, Market Lambs, Commercial Ewes, Market Goats, and Commercial Does

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Market and Commercial Hogs

Any animal not validated by these deadlines will be ineligible to show at the LSU AgCenter Livestock Shows. If you have any questions, contact us at (337)291-7090.

# Searching for Livestock Exhibitors

As our 4-H year begins, some members make plans to raise and show livestock projects. If you are one of these, there are several things you must do:

1. When completing the 4-H enrollment card, be sure to mark the appropriate livestock project (beef, sheep, horse, etc.). This will put you on the livestock/horse mailing list.
2. Parents of new exhibitors must also contact Mrs. Nicole at the 4-H office ((337)291-7090) to discuss the 4-H livestock program and must attend one of the meetings scheduled for new exhibitors.
3. First year exhibitor meeting for livestock is scheduled for Wednesday, September 29th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (beef, dairy, sheep, goat, swine & poultry). First year horse exhibitors meeting will be held in March.
4. Contact Mrs. Nicole at [ngerard@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:ngerard@agcenter.lsu.edu) for registration information and further details.



## Louisiana Service-Learning Focus

This Louisiana 4-H community service focus for the year is mental health. Clubs are encouraged to include the state service focus in their school club activities. An example of this would be to have monthly club programs which educate 4-H members on various mental health issues. 4-H'ers are also encouraged to perform community service activities which relate to the state focus.

Mental Health is defined as a person's condition with regards to their psychological and emotional wellbeing. Simply put, it's the wellness of the mind. Mental Health affects everything from the way we act and react to how we feel and think. It determines how we cope with stress and different struggles daily life throws our way. There are several different reasons why our mental health can be affected negatively, making our minds sick; including biological factors, life experiences, and family history. Mental health can decline at any age, and it's important that you not only take care of your physical body, but also your psychological and emotional body. When your mental health declines in different directions, it is called mental illness.

## Become a 4-H Volunteer!

Become a 4-H Volunteer and help create life-changing experiences for youth in your community! There are many ways for parents and volunteers to get more involved in the 4-H program.

Adult volunteers play an important role in the 4-H program. They mentor 4-H youth, serve as a leader, coordinate local community service projects, help to plan and run events. Volunteer at your child's school, or on the parish, regional, or state level. To learn more about opportunities, contact the local 4-H Office at (337)291-7090 to find out about becoming a 4-H volunteer. All volunteers will register on the 4HOnline system by creating their profile within the system.



# Dates to Remember

## September 2021

- 1 First Day of Club Meetings
- 15 First Call - Enrollment Submitted in Online System
- 15 Junior Leader Meeting
- 29 First Year Exhibitor Meeting
- 30-10/2 LA 4-H Volunteer Conference, Camp Grant Walker



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Follow us on Instagram: [@lafayette4h](https://www.instagram.com/lafayette4h)

## October 2021

- 1 First Day of Club Meetings
- 4 Livestock Advisory Board Meeting, 4-H Office
- 3-9 National 4-H Week
- 14 Final Call – Enrollment Due in Online System
- 20 Junior Leader Meeting
- 28-11/14 Louisiana State Fair, Shreveport
- 29 Pumpkin Decorating Submissions Due

Sincerely,

*Nicole Gerard*

Nicole Gerard

Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development  
Lafayette Parish

**CHARLES HEBERT**

Charles Hebert

County Agent, 4-H Youth Development  
Lafayette Parish

It is the policy of the LSU AgCenter, Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age or disability. If you have a disability which requires special assistance or your participation in any aforementioned activity, please contact the Lafayette 4-H office at (337) 291-7090.