



Lafayette 4-H Hotline

Writing Skills

People have communicated by writing letters throughout history. Sending an email has been a popular alternative in today's world. Either way, having good writing skills is critical to success and essential in the workplace. Writing thank you notes when someone has given you a gift or done something nice for you is also very important. Getting in the habit of writing thank you notes can also help improve your writing skills in other areas of your life like school and work.

Members will practice written communication, discuss appropriate reasons for writing thank you notes and draft appropriate electronic communications.

The content of this lesson will be mirroring the Conventions of Standard English standards and Production and Distribution of Writing tasks for LEAP testing.



Talent and Art Contest

Talent and Arts Contest entries must be uploaded online by Monday, March 4th at midnight! A huge thank you and congratulations to all those who submitted entries! It is no surprise to us that we have some talented 4-H members here in Lafayette Parish!

Results will be posted and distributed soon. Check our social media pages for results. They will also be sent out to leaders. If you earn a ribbon for the Talent and Art contest, it will be brought to your school for distribution soon.



March 2024

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Points of interest:

- Writing Skills
- Talent and Art Contest
- Spring Commodity Sale
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- Achievement Day
- 4-H University
- 4-H Camp Applications
- Horse News
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Spring Commodity Sale

The Annual Strawberry and Fern Sale kicked off last month to benefit the Lafayette 4-H Foundation. It supports the Lafayette 4-H Program by funding awards, transportation, or part of camp registration fees. Strawberries will sell for \$25.00 per flat, ferns will be selling for \$25.00 per plant, Parish Rice is selling for \$6.50 (2 lb bags) and \$11.00 (5 lb bags). Your club will receive 50% of the profit. So for every dollar profit, your club will receive 50 cents.

Orders are due to the 4-H Leaders by Wednesday, March 6th. They will be due to the 4-H Office on **Friday, March 8th**. We will continue with the same style of pick-up as the fall commodity sale. The delivery is set for **Tuesday, March 19th from 2:00 p.m. through 5:00 p.m.** at Second Harvest Food Bank, 215 E Pinhook Rd. If you prefer, you can pick up your club's complete order and disburse them at school.

Payment: All checks for orders should be made to **Lafayette 4-H Foundation**. Once all orders are collected and delivered, the Lafayette 4-H Foundation will issue checks to schools for their portion of the profits generated.



Scorecard Information

At March meetings, we plan to distribute 4-H Awards Scorecards to students that have been active throughout the year (in 4-H). We will discuss the importance of completing the document to the members. The scorecard will be used to determine who will be recognized as our outstanding 4-H'ers this year! At least one member from each club will be recognized. The scorecards will be due to our office on April 5th.

Achievement Day 2024

Achievement Day is one of Lafayette Parish's 4-H contest days. It is a great way to participate in many different 4-H contests as well as showcase some of your club's hard work all year long. It is scheduled for **Saturday, March 16, 2024** at **David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy** located at 805 Teurlings Drive, Lafayette, LA. Our theme this year is "Life Skills," and we have designed many of the contests with that in mind.

Copies of the rules are posted on our website, and an electronic file was sent to all members from the email address in the enrollment system in February.

Clubs are encouraged to participate in the School/Club Exhibit and Club Group Presentation. This is your chance to show us what your club is doing in 4-H. We would also like you to highlight your club's Service-Learning Project for the year. Officers' books are also due on Achievement Day.

Good luck, everyone! We so look forward to seeing all of you in person at Achievement Day!



4-H University

4-H University will be held in Baton Rouge June 18-21, 2024. 4-H members in grades 8-12 are eligible to attend 4-HU to represent Lafayette Parish in a variety of state 4-H contests.

An ice cream social will be held on **March 20, 2024, from 6:00- 7:30 pm** at the 4-H Office for all members interested in attending 4-HU this summer. Information packets are being sent electronically and mailed to all 8th-12th grade members so that they can review it prior to the meeting.

4-H Camp Applications

Camp applications were distributed last month to 4-H Club Leaders, Members, and families. We have been given an allotment of 140 beds at 4-H Camp this summer. The initial application is to gauge interest of members as well as secure the recommendations from Leaders and school administration for members who benefit most from an opportunity to participate in Camp. Applications were due to club leaders by Friday, February 17th.

We will process all applications and send notification to those campers accepted for camp the first week of March.



Horse News

There will be a meeting for all 1st year horse Exhibitors and their parents to receive information on the program. This meeting is scheduled to take place in conjunction with the Grade Horse Clinic on **Tuesday, March 19th** at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center located at 2206 Johnston Street.

We will begin at 6:00 p.m. with the 1st year Exhibitors' meeting, followed by the Grade Horse Clinic at about 7:00 p.m. outside of the building. All trucks and trailers should enter the property from the Johnston St. entrance. Parents should park to the right side of the road in order to allow traffic to flow. Horses will remain in trailers until their individual time of certification. They will be certified in the order that they arrive.

If you have any questions, contact Mr. Charles Hebert at (337)291-7090 or by email at chebert@agcenter.lsu.edu.



Marsh Maneuvers

Marsh Maneuvers is a 4-H camp for high schoolers (**completed 9th-12th grade by July 1, 2024**) that offers hands-on learning about Louisiana's coast! Some of the unique experiences include taking a tour of the marsh in an airboat, helping restore wetlands by planting marsh grass, going crabbing, and touring the Tabasco Factory and Jungle Gardens at Avery Island.

Marsh Maneuvers 2024 will be housed at the Broussard Bunkhouse in Intercoastal City, LA the following weeks:

July 1-5, 2024

July 8-12, 2024

July 15-19, 2024

July 22-26, 2024

There is a **\$150 registration fee** that is non-refundable and covers the cost of meals, supplies, and a t-shirt. The fee does not have to be paid until after the 4-H member has been invited to attend.

Applications will be reviewed and scored by judges. Applicants with the highest score will be invited to attend Marsh Maneuvers. Applicants who have been invited to attend Marsh Maneuvers or selected as alternates will be notified by email by **April 25, 2024**. Applicants who have not been selected to attend Marsh Maneuvers or listed as an alternate will not receive a notification.

Applicants will be nominated by 4-H Agents to apply by **Wednesday, March 27, 2024**. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Mrs. Nicole at ngerard@agcenter.lsu.edu or Mrs. Brandi at bfeller@agcenter.lsu.edu for more information



Global Youth Service Day

Plan to participate in the largest service event in the world on April 26-28th. National Youth Service Day will mobilize millions of young Americans to identify and address the needs of their communities through service. Learn more about getting involved and applying for Hershey Heartwarming Young Heroes GYSD 2024 Grants for your National Youth Service Project. For information, visit: <https://ysa.org/campaigns/gysd/>



Dates to Remember

March 2024

- 1 First Day of Club Meetings
- 2 Parish Shoot, Lafayette Skeet Academy
- 2 State Rabbit Show, Alexandria, LA
- 4 Talent and Art Entries Due
- 7-9 Junior Leader Conference, Camp Grant Walker
- 8 Strawberry and Fern Sale Orders due, 4-H Office
- 9 Fashion Show Judging- Lafayette 4-H Office
- 16 Achievement Day, David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 19 Strawberry and Fern Sale Pick-Up, Second Harvest
- 19 First Year Exhibitor Horse Meeting, Ira Nelson
- 19 Grade Horse Clinic, Ira Nelson
- 20 Junior Leader Meeting
- 29 Good Friday, *Office Closed*

April 2024

- 1 Horse Possession Date
- 2 First Day of Club Meetings
- 2 Outstanding Senior Applications Due, 4-H Office
- 5 4-H Scorecards Due to 4-H Office
- 15 Horse Entries Due, 4-H Office

Service-Learning Project

The Lafayette Jr. Leaders have partnered with HUB-Lafayette Urban Ministries on their mission to serve those in our community facing poverty and homelessness. The HUB has put together a list of month-by-month donations that are in need to stock the Sortwell Center located at 1515 W. University Ave. Please review the list below for the upcoming months and collect all items that you can in order to help us stock the Sortwell Center.

March- hygiene items

April- non-perishable food items

May- sunscreen, off bug spray, umbrellas, ponchos

Donations can be dropped off at Sortwell (1515 W University Ave., Lafayette, LA) on Tuesday through Thursday 9:30 AM- 12:00 PM.



Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/lafayette4h



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

Sincerely,

Brandi Feller

Brandi Feller
Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish

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

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