



Lafayette 4-H Hotline

Move More Month

Physical fitness is the ability to carry out the physical tasks of living and reduce the risk of disease. Regular physical activity reduces the risk of developing heart disease, diabetes, colon cancer, stress and high blood pressure. It builds lean muscle, stronger bones, positive self-esteem, better sleep, more energy, relieves tension and stress, decreases body fat, and improves your mood. Overall, physically active people generally live longer and enjoy a better quality of life than inactive people.

The content of this lesson will allow members to demonstrate physical education standards including competency in a variety of motor skills and movement patterns; apply knowledge of concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics related to movement and performance and recognize the value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and social interaction.



Talent and Art Contest

Talent and Arts Contest entries must be uploaded online by Monday, March 2nd, 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 2026

Lafayette Office

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Points of interest:

- Move More Month
- Talent and Art Contest
- Spring Commodity Sale
- Scorecard Information
- Achievement Day
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- 4-H Camp Applications
- Horse News
- Marsh Maneuvers
- Global Youth Service Day
- Service-Learning Project



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 \$30.00 per flat, ferns will be selling for \$30.00 per plant, 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 11th. They will be due to the 4-H Office on **Friday, March 13th**. We will continue with the same style of pick-up as the fall commodity sale. The delivery is set for **Tuesday, March 24th 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 2nd.

Achievement Day 2026

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 21, 2026** at **Martial Billeaud Elementary** located at 500 East Fairfield Drive Broussard, 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 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 23-26, 2026. 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 17, 2026, from 6:00- 7:30 pm** at the 4-H Office for all members interested in attending 4-HU this summer. Information packets were 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 the 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. We will continue to accept applications until we fill all spaces or about March 15th.

We will process all applications and send notifications 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 **Wednesday, March 25th** 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@acgenter.lsu.edu.



Marsh Maneuvers

Marsh Maneuvers is a 4-H camp for high schoolers (**completed 9th-12th grade by July 1, 2026**) 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 2026 will be housed at the Broussard Bunkhouse in Intercoastal City, LA on the following weeks:

July 6-10, 2026

July 13-17, 2026

July 20-24, 2026

July 27-31, 2026

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.

Applicants will be nominated by 4-H Agents to apply by **Tuesday, March 3, 2026**. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Mrs. Nicole at ngerard@agcenter.lsu.edu for more information.



Global Youth Service Day

Plan to participate in the largest service event in the world on April 24-26th. 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/>





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Follow us on Instagram: @lafayette4h

Dates to Remember

March 2026

- 2 First Day of Club Meetings
- 2 Talent and Art Entries Due
- 6-8 Junior Leader Conference, Camp Grant Walker
- 7 Parish Shoot, Lafayette Skeet Academy
- 13 Strawberry and Fern Sale Orders due, 4-H Office
- 14 Fashion Show Judging-Lafayette Office
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 17 Junior Leader Meeting
- 25 First Year Exhibitor Horse Meeting, Ira Nelson
- 25 Grade Horse Clinic, Ira Nelson
- 21 Achievement Day, Martial Billeaud Elementary

April 2026

- 1 Horse Possession Date
- 1 First Day of Club Meetings
- 2 Outstanding Senior Applications Due, 4-H Office
- 2 4-H Scorecards Due to 4-H Office
- 3 Good Friday, *Office Closed*
- 6 Horse Entries 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

Charlene Martin

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Camden Oglesby

Assistant Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development
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The LSU AgCenter is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Should you need ADA Accommodations, please contact the Lafayette 4-H Office at (337)291-7090 no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled event.