



## Upcoming Events



### March

- 12 **Deadline** to let county office know if you are competing in Hippology, Horse Judging, Horse Public Speaking, Horse Individual Demo, Horse Team Demo and Horse Bowl
- 15 STEM Fest, Caesars Superdome Smoothie King Center, New Orleans, LA
- 21-22 4-H Horse Contests: Hippology, Judging, Communication (Starkville, MS)
- 26 **Deadline** to call Extension Office to enter Youth Stockmanship Contest
- 29 4-H IDOL/4-H's Got Talent—South



### April

- 1 Registration open for Poultry Chain
- 5 4-H Horse Bowl Contest
- 11 Wildlife Art & Photography Contest entries due in County Office
- ZZZ's by the Sea, Mississippi Aquarium, Gulfport, MS
- 12 4-H Cloverbuds Fun Day, 1:00 p.m., Extension Auditorium
- 14 **Deadline** to apply for Rural Medical & Science Scholars Program
- 15 Regional Youth Stockmanship Contest, White Sands Experiment Station, Poplarville
- 21 **Deadline** for 4-H Ambassador and State 4-H Council Officer applications, cover letters and resumes



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Hi Pearl River County!

My name is Emma Clement, and starting March 3rd, I will be the new 4-H agent for the county.

I am originally from New Orleans, LA, but spent much of my childhood moving around the United States. My family finally settled near Indianapolis, IN where I finished out middle and high school. While I was not a part of 4-H while in school, I did take a veterinary assisting class where I got to intern for two years at both a veterinary clinic and a horse barn, which is what originally sparked my interest in animals and agriculture. After graduation, I decided to head back home to attend Louisiana State University for Agricultural and Extension Education. While at LSU I was presented with the opportunity to join collegiate 4-H, which is where I first discovered just how great a program 4-H truly is.

I graduated from LSU in 2022 and quickly began working in education, where I taught agricultural classes for two middle schools. I soon discovered that traditional teaching wasn't for me and decided to transition into a 4-H agent position in St. Mary Parish, LA, where I've been for the past two years.

While my time in St. Mary Parish was full of growth and positive experiences, the decision to make the move to Mississippi was an easy one. My family recently relocated to Hattiesburg last summer, and it only makes sense for me to relocate as well.

I am eager to begin this position as the 4-H agent for Pearl River County and fully immerse myself in the community. From what I have seen so far, Pearl River County 4-H is a strong program with a great foundation, and I am excited to continue the amazing work that has already been put in place.



# 4-H CLUB NEWS



## HOT SHOTS 4-H CLUB

Hot Shot Shooting Sports members are busy having fun and working on getting their hours on the range in for those who wish to compete.

- Twila Jordan-Hoover, Coordinator



## LUCKY 13 4-H CLUB

The Lucky 13 4-H Club recently attended the Blue Ribbon cutting celebrating the opening of a new assisted living home in Poplarville, the Jubilee Gardens. While there they learned about the different strategies employed throughout the home to help residents remain independent. Following the ribbon cutting the members led some rounds of BINGO with the residents and other guests. Annabelle O'Brien came away the big winner in the final black out round. Club members are also working to raise money to purchase and help install a covered dog kennel for the Poplarville Police Department. They recently sold King Cakes to friends and families provided by JD Farms. On Saturday, March 8, 2025, they will be at the Barnyard Marketplace selling lemonade in mason jar glasses and canned drinks. As they are continually working to help promote recycling and less waste a recycle bin and awareness information will be made available during the event as well.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 20, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Extension Auditorium. The theme will be learning about law & order.

- April Grecho.



**Look for Pearl River County 4-H on Facebook!  
Like our pages to keep up with upcoming programs.**



## Livestock Information



### 4-H Poultry Chain

You can increase your knowledge of poultry management practices and life skills in the 4-H Poultry Chain. You have the opportunity to raise birds to sexual maturity while keeping a record of their progress. At the end of the project you will choose your top 3 birds to compete at the Mississippi State Fair in the poultry show. If you are a Cloverbud (ages 5-7 as of January 1, 2025) you will be able to compete on a county level. 4-H'ers ages 8-18 will be able to compete on the county and state level. You can only show one breed (females only) and must order at least 6 chicks (It is recommended that you order 20). There are 2 categories for chicks: Meat Category and Layer Category (call the office for a list of breeds). You must order your chicks from a NPIP-certified hatchery or a commercial operation that is supplied by an NPIP hatchery. Do NOT order from a NPIP-backyard flock. Now is the time to order your chicks to be delivered the week of May 18-24, 2025. You will need to register between April 1 and June 15 by calling the county office. Call the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280 for more information.

### Youth Stockmanship Contest

If you are a 4-Her ages 14-18 (as of January 1, 2025), the Youth Stockmanship Contest is a new opportunity for you. This contest will challenge you to improve your cattle handling and processing skills based on Beef Quality Assurance guidelines. Your teams will consist of 3 members. Each of you will be required to be Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) certified, have chuteside experience and have practiced on live cattle prior to competing in a contest. The regional contest will be held on **Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at the White Sands Experiment Station in Poplarville**. If you are interested in competing, contact the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280 by **Wednesday, March 26, 2025**. This contest may soon feed into a national competition (possibly in 2026). For more information, contact the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280.

### Sullivan Supply Cattle Clinic

Sullivan Supply is offering a free 2-day cattle clinic (registration is free but is required) on **May 24 and 25, 2025 at the Forrest County Multipurpose Center in Hattiesburg**. You are not required to bring their own cattle (listen and learn participants are welcome). Topics covered will be daily hair care, fitting, clipping, showmanship and more. Two lunches and one dinner will be sponsored by Sullivan Supply. If you plan to bring cattle, be prepared to bring generators to run blowers. Shavings must be bought from the Forrest County Multipurpose Center (no outside shavings allowed). RV spots are available for \$25 a night. NOTE: This event is not sponsored by Forrest County 4-H nor is it a 4-H event.

You can register and find more information by using this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2025-mississippi-2-day-cattle-grad-program-tickets-1226763405369?aff=oddtcreator>.

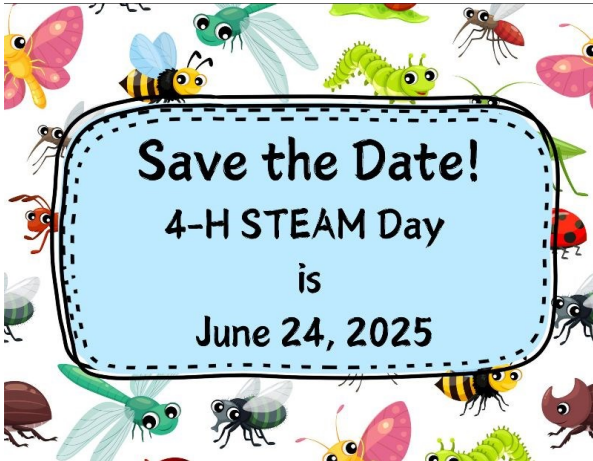
## 4-H Newsletter Online



If you would like, you can view the newsletter online at [www.extension.msstate.edu](http://www.extension.msstate.edu). At the top of the page, put the cursor on "Offices" and click "County Extension Offices". Then click "Pearl River" and then click "County 4-H". Click the newsletter link, and the newsletter will open.



## 4-H Robotics



## STEM Fest

The New Orleans Saints and Pelicans are hosting STEM Fest, presented by Chevron, on Saturday, March 15th, from 10:00 am-2:00 pm at the Caesars Superdome & Smoothie King Center. K-12 students, parents and teachers are invited to participate. The hands-on educational event will feature live performances, interactive demonstrations in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and Saints & Pelicans activities. Your \$20 online entry fee (price increases the day of the event) includes access to STEM Fest and a ticket to the Pelicans vs. 76ers game on Monday, March 24th, courtesy of Chevron. Entry is free for kids 2 and younger with a paying adult. Please use this link to purchase: <https://pels.group/STEMFestSLazear>.

Mississippi 4-H Presents  
ZZZ's by the Sea  
(Tentative Schedule)  
April 11, 2025

\$50  
(includes admission, snacks, breakfast, and a t-shirt)

Evening	Morning
6:45-7:15 p.m. - Check-In	6:00-6:45 a.m. - Rise and Shine
7:15-7:30 p.m. - Welcome/Orientation	6:45-7:45 a.m. - Breakfast
7:30-9:30 p.m. - Activities/Snack	7:45-8:10 a.m. - Animal Spotlight (Aviary)
9:30 - 9:45 p.m. - Nighttime Orientation	8:10-8:30 a.m.-Animal Enrichment (Dolphin habitat)
9:45 - 10:30 p.m. - Quiet Time	8:30-8:55 a.m. - Reef Talk (Aquatic Wonders, 3rd floor)
10:30 p.m. - Lights Out	8:55 a.m. - Gift Shop, Self-guided Tour, Departure

ZZZ's by the Sea will be held at the Mississippi Aquarium and is recommended for children ages 5-12. Guests will have the opportunity to sleep in one of 4 spectacular ocean galleries in the Aquatic Wonders exhibit while participating in activities, animal spotlights, and much more. Participants ages 12 and older are welcome to attend the overnight; however, activities are designed around elementary and middle school-aged students. All children under the age of 17 must be accompanied by a participating adult (must complete volunteer registration process if spending the night). Children under the age of 5 are not permitted to stay overnight at the Aquarium. This event is limited to 30 total participants (youth and adult). Call the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280 for more information.



## Attention 4-H Cloverbuds (5-7 Year Olds as of January 1, 2025)

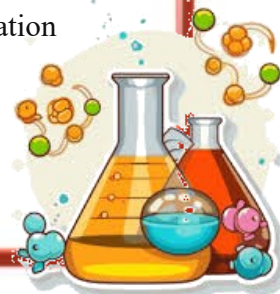


The Cloverbuds Fun Day will be held on **Saturday, April 12, 2025, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Extension Office**, located at 835 Highway 26 West in Poplarville. We will meet in the classroom. We will complete several hands-on activities and make snacks that will relate to 4-H projects. Call the Pearl River County Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 or email [connie.williams@msstate.edu](mailto:connie.williams@msstate.edu) by **Wednesday, April 9**, to let us know if you will attend. This will help us better prepare.

## Rural Medical & Science Scholars Program



Are you a high school junior? Are you interested in exploring health-related careers and STEM fields and earning 3 college credits through the course *Introduction to Health Professions*? If so, the **2025 Rural Medical & Science Scholars Program** might be for you. It will take place from **June 8 to June 20, 2025**. In this program you will participate in a robust lecture and engaging workshop exploring public health and its connections to careers in health or science, opportunities to network with peers and professionals to create lifelong connections and a challenging yet rewarding experience that prepares you for your future academic and career goals. You can apply now, and the deadline to apply is **April 14, 2025**. You will need to get a recommendation letter from your teacher, who will then forward your application and recommendation to your guidance counselor. Your counselor will send ACT scores and an official transcript. All of this takes time, so don't wait until the last minute to work on your application. For more details contact the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280.



## Mississippi 4-H Wildlife Art & Photography Contests



The Mississippi 4-H Wildlife Art and Photography Contest is one opportunity to show off your talent or skill! The Art categories are Pastels/Charcoal/Graphite/Colored Pencil (Abstract or Realistic), Oil/Acrylic/Watercolor (Abstract or Realistic), Pen/Ink/Markers/Crayon (Abstract or Realistic), Cartoon, Sculpture/3-D and Mixed, Altered Media. Photography categories are Action, Non-Action and Human Interest (Digital only). Photographs must be 5"x7" format in sleeve. Age divisions are 8-13 years old and 14-18 years old (as of January 1, 2025). Entries are due in the Pearl River County Extension Service Office by **Friday, April 11, 2025**. The top 5 entries in each category will go on to be judged at the district level, top 5 there go on to Region level, top 5 there go on to State Level, and the top 5 in the state will go on to be displayed at the MS Wildlife Expo in Jackson in late July/early August. Ribbons, rosettes and other prizes will be given on the State level. Call the Pearl River County 4-H Extension Service Office at 601-403-2280 for more details.

## 4-H Ambassador/State 4-H Council Officer Applications Due

Would you like to be a Mississippi 4-H Ambassador or a State 4-H Council Officer? If so, contact the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280 for more information and an application! Applications are due in the county office by **Monday, April 21, 2025**. You will also need to include a cover letter and resume.



## Horse Educational Contests

If you are interested in any of the following contests, call the Pearl River County Extension Office by March 12 at 601-403-2280 for more information:

4-H Horse Education Contests  
(Hippology, Horse Judging, Horse Public Speaking, Horse Individual Demo and Horse Team Demo  
**Friday, March 21, and Saturday, March 22, MSU**

4-H Horse Bowl Contest  
**Saturday, April 5, MSU**

## Volunteers

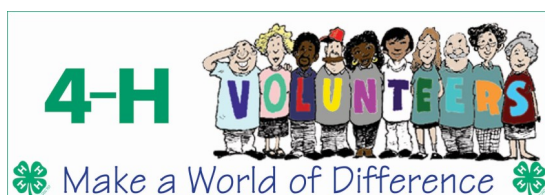
### Congratulations!

We are excited to tell you that Pearl River County 4-H Volunteer **Leah Smith** was a recipient of the Harvey Gordon Rising Star Outstanding 4-H Volunteer Award (1-3 years) at the recent Mississippi 4-H Volunteer Leaders Conference! We are very proud of her and appreciate the outstanding job she does for Pearl River County 4-H!



### South 4-H Volunteer Leaders Forum

Mark your calendar now for **Saturday, August 23, 2024**, and plan to attend the South Mississippi 4-H Volunteer Forum. This is a great way to get ideas for programs and workshops for your meetings and to increase your knowledge as a 4-H volunteer! More information will be coming in the next few months.



## Visual Presentations

District Project Achievement Day and Club Congress will be here before we know it! Now is the time to start preparing for contests. One of the contests in which you can compete is visual presentations. Here are some tips to help you to prepare your visual presentation:

- Start by choosing a subject that is easily understood, useful and interesting to your audience and about which you are enthusiastic and in which you believe
- Plan your visual presentation on paper by listing supplies you will need (equipment, flash drive or other things), collecting correct information approved by the Extension 4-H Agent, listing the steps to be shown in order, deciding what you will say along with each step and planning how you will use equipment and materials
- Divide your speaking parts into an introduction, the body and a summary
- Use a gimmick (personal experience, famous saying, riddle, poem or skit, song or film clip, dramatic or shocking statement or problem, ask a question or show a completed project) in your introduction to draw the attention of your audience
- Discuss the main points, explain each step and eliminate unnecessary information that does not contribute to the main points when writing the body of your speech
- Highlight the main points, state sources of information and ask for questions in your summary
- Plan your visuals and make them easy to see (in PowerPoint presentations use short bullets and make the letters large enough to read when projected, pay attention to the colors in your background and the words to make them easier to read, use graphs to illustrate points when needed, include colorful graphics for interest and to emphasize your points and keep your design simple
- Select a title that will suggest the subject without telling the whole story
- Plan your appearance (dress neatly and be well groomed, avoid jewelry and mannerisms that will distract your audience, stand tall and make eye contact with your audience)
- Be prepared (make sure slides are in order, loosen caps or tops and cover brand names if you are using items to demonstrate, if using trays line them with paper towels to lessen noise and arrange items in the order of use)
- Practice, practice, practice to help you do things in logical order, stay within the time limit, use visuals skillfully and know if you have enough information about your subject

For more information about visual presentations contact the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280 for Publication 1096, "How to Do a Visual Presentation".



## Club Meetings



**Blazin' Saddles 4-H Club**  
Brandi Kirkland (601-303-0451)

Contact Mrs. Brandi for information

Fairgrounds Arena

**Lucky 13 4-H Club**  
April Grecho (919-280-7411)

Thursday, March 20 @ 5:30 p.m.

Extension Auditorium

Emma Clement  
Extension 4-H Agent  
Pearl River County  
835 Highway 26 West  
Poplarville, MS 39470  
601-403-2280