



Upcoming Events

February
1-6 Dixie National Jr. Round-Up Livestock Shows (Jackson, MS)
3 Air Rifle, Air Pistol, .22 Rifle, .22 Pistol and Archery Safety Meetings
8 Cloverbuds 4-H Club Fun Day, 1:00 p.m., Extension Auditorium
9 Shotgun Safety Meeting (Had to be preregistered by January 31)
10 Air Rifle, Air Pistol, .22 Rifle, .22 Pistol and Archery Safety Meetings
14 Mississippi 4-H Awards applications due in county office
15 Science Night at the Museum (MSU)
21-22 Mississippi 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Conference (MSU)

Happy Valentine's Day

March
21-22 4-H Horse Contests: Hippology, Judging, Communication (Starkville, MS)
26 Youth Stockmanship Contest entries due in county office
29 4-H IDOL/4-H's Got Talent—South

Happy St. Patrick's Day



In This Issue

4-H Club News..... 2
Livestock Information 3
MS 4-H Awards 4
4-H Shooting Sports 4
Attention 4-H Cloverbuds... 4
4-H Robotics 5
Rural Health & Science Scholars Program 6
Firearm Safety 6
Volunteers 7
Club Meetings 7



835 HIGHWAY 26 WEST, POPLARVILLE, MS 39470



4-H CLUB NEWS



BLAZIN' SADDLES 4-H CLUB

Howdy from Blazin' Saddles Horse Club. We have been relaxing and taking a break during this cool weather. We will pick back up full force on March 18, 2025 with a barrel race. We have several fun things lined up for our club this year, so don't miss out.
- Brandi Kirkland

LUCKY 13 4-H CLUB

While the Lucky 13 Club was not able to hold our January meeting thanks to Snowmageddon, they have been busy. In December the club sold hot cocoa during the Poplarville Christmas Parade, and proceeds were donated to Brother's Keepers Ministries in support of fixing coolers. In January the club attended a Mississippi Sea Wolves hockey game and treated their parents to a night out in thanks for all that they do to support them. Coming up they will be participating in the Barnyard Marketplace Spring Festival to raise funds for a community service project they have in the works. Club members have also been busy putting together their resumes.
- April Grecho

HOT SHOTS 4-H CLUB

The Hot Shots Shooting Sports sign-up period for the spring season has concluded. Safety meetings will be held in early February for the various disciplines. We are looking forward to a great year!
- Twila Hoover

PEARL RIVER COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION

Pearl River County livestock exhibitors had a great Junior Livestock Show and Sale this year! In Dairy Showmanship, Suthern Simon, Hazel Baudoin, Anniston Herrin, Saylem Simon, Haven Simon and Nora Haden won first place, Kinley Baudoin, Kayley Herrin and Kaci Ladner won second place and Henley Kate Anderson, Denna Jordan and Maddie Haden won third place in their age divisions. Haven Simon exhibited the Champion Commercial Dairy Heifer and Kinley Baudoin the Reserve Champion. Henley Kate Anderson showed the Champion Commercial Dairy Cow and Haven Simon the Reserve Champion. Haven Simon exhibited the Junior Champion Jersey Heifer and Anniston Herrin the Reserve Junior Champion. Haven Simon showed the Senior Champion Jersey Heifer and Saylem Simon the Reserve Champion. Kaci Ladner won first place in Beef Showmanship. In Swine Showmanship Ella Shook, Ethan Shook and Kaci Ladner won first place in their age divisions. Ethan Shook showed the Champion Market Swine and Kaci the Reserve Champion.

Pearl River County 4-Hers did an excellent job at the South Mississippi Livestock Show. In Dairy Cattle Showmanship Saylem Simon and Haven Simon won first place, Nora Haden won second place and Kinley Baudoin won third place in their age divisions. Haven/Saylem Simon's commercial dairy heifer was the Champion Commercial Dairy Heifer, and Henley Kate's heifer was the Reserve Champion Commercial Dairy

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Heifer. Henley Kate Anderson exhibited the Champion Commercial Cow. Anniston Herrin exhibited the Junior Champion Jersey Female, and Haven/Saylem Simon had the Reserve Junior Champion Jersey Female. Haven/Saylem Simon had the Senior Champion Jersey Female and the Champion Jersey Female.

In Swine Showmanship, Ethan Shook placed first, and Kaci Ladner placed second in their age divisions. Kaci exhibited the Reserve Champion Down Ear Commercial Gilt and the Champion Chester White Market Hog, and Ethan Shook showed the Champion Crossbred Commercial Gilt, the Overall Champion Commercial Gilt and the Reserve Champion Spot Market Hog.

In Beef Showmanship Karlee Carnes won first place in her age division. Karlee exhibited the Champion Red Brahman Heifer.



Livestock Information



Dixie National Junior Round-Up Livestock Shows, Jackson

February 1-5, 2025

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. 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.

Mississippi 4-H Awards

If you have completed the requirements for high school graduation or have started college work, there are six 4-H awards for which you can apply. The deadline for these awards applications is February 14, 2024, but remember that you will need transcripts and recommendation letters. Don't wait until the last minute to complete your application. If you are interested in applying for any of the six awards, call the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280.

4-H Shooting Sports

For those signed up by January 31, don't forget the mandatory safety trainings. You will not be able to practice on the range without attending the training. These trainings (held on the range in Millard) are:

February 3 & 10 at 4:00 p.m. - Air Rifle, Air Pistol, .22 Rifle, .22 Pistol and Archery
February 9 at 2:00 p.m. - Shotgun



Call the Extension Office at 601-403-2280 if you have any questions.



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



Cloverbuds (ages 5-7 as of January 1), let's get back on track and have some fun! Please plan to attend the Cloverbuds Fun Day on **Saturday, February 8, 2025, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Extension Auditorium**, located at 835 Highway 26 West in Poplarville. 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 by **Wednesday, February 5**, to let us know if you will attend. This will help us better prepare.

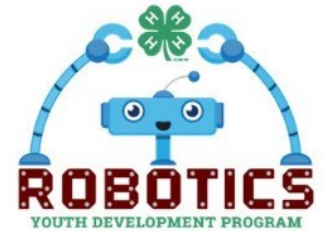
4-H Newsletter Online



If you would like, you can view the newsletter online at 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



Save the Date!
4-H STEAM Day
is
June 24, 2025

SCIENCE NIGHT
AT THE
MUSEUMS

Saturday, February 15
4pm-7pm
Hilbun Hall and Cobb Institute

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

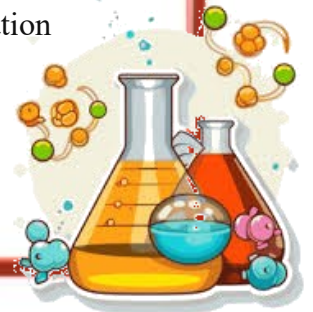
\$50
(includes admission, snacks, breakfast,
and a t-shirt)

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.

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.



Firearm Safety

Whether you are hunting or participating in a competition, there are a few cardinal rules to follow. Here they are:



- Always treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
- Always keep firearm muzzles or arrows pointed in a safe direction.
- Keep your fingers off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot.
- Always know what is beyond your target.

If you follow these rules, you will avoid accidents and keep yourself and those around you safe.



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

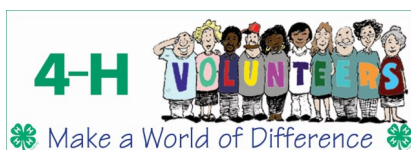


Visit us on
Facebook

Volunteers

Mississippi 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Conference

The Mississippi 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Conference will be held at Mississippi State University on **February 21-22, 2025**. It will be a time of fun and learning through fun shops, workshops and sharing with other volunteers from throughout the state. This year's workshops include Mason Bees Could Be a Savior, Guiding Youth in the Poultry Chain Project, Civically Savvy, 4-H Slingshot Program, Journey Through Farmtastic, Beginner Drawing, Etiquette Skills for Children and Youth, Can You Survive, Coding with ScratchJr, Creating with Clay, Following the Guidelines for 4-H Exhibit Competition, 4-H Etiquette and Use of the 4-H Clover, Beat the Exhibit Day Blues (Part 2), How to Make a Bowl Potholder, 4-H Volunteers Networking with 4-H Agent, County Agent and Community Resources and Archery Basics. Fun Shops include All That Glitters is Not Gold - Embossing for Beginners and Braided Jute Coasters. The registration cost is \$130 (\$100 for first timers) for the full conference or \$100 (\$70 for first timers) for Saturday only. There is money in the county budget to help with the cost. The deadline to register for the conference is **February 10, 2025**. There is a block of hotel rooms reserved at LaQuinta for \$139 a night, but you must make your reservation by **February 6, 2025** to get this rate. For more details contact the Pearl River County Extension Office at 601-403-2280.



Club Meetings



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

Tuesday, March 18 @ 6:00 p.m.

Fairgrounds Arena

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

Thursday, February 27 @ 5:30 p.m.

Extension Auditorium
Extension Auditorium

Dr. Eddie M. L. Smith, Ph.D.
Extension Agent IV & County Coordinator
Pearl River County
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Poplarville, MS 39470
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