



Happy Holidays!



December 2016

"MAKING THE BEST BETTER!"

New Opportunities for Rankin County 4-H Youth!

I have had many families and youth want more from 4-H! Since, starting in the 4-H Agent position a little less than a year and a half ago, one of my goals was to have general Rankin 4-H Club Meetings, where any youth and families can attend and learn more about 4-H, what activities/events, etc. are currently available to 4-H members, where existing and new 4-H members can have a common ground to meet, and most importantly, provide leadership positions to youth who wish to become more active. Historically, each county would have general 4-H Club meetings, once a month, usually on a Monday. Nowadays, with youth being so heavily involved in after school activities and a large amount of homework, I have decided to do quarterly Rankin County 4-H Club meetings in hopes that this will work in everyone's schedule a little bit better.

What: Rankin County 4-H Club Quarterly Meetings

When: Mondays, Feb. 13th, May 8th, August 14th and November 13th @ 6 pm

Where: Assembly Room in the Extension Office (601 Marquette Road, Brandon)

Why: To gain more knowledge regarding 4-H activities/events, to plan new activities, elect leadership positions and learn how to run a meeting and use parliamentary procedures, get to know other 4-H'ers and more!

Who: Any 4-H club member, no matter how many years of 4-H experience.

Mandatory: NO! Any 4-H member can attend, if interested, but is not required.

Questions: Please ask! Call/email, Heather Jennings



Livestock Exhibitors

District and Dixie Shows

- **Retinal Imaging:** Raymond – Dec. 14th, 8-1 pm
*New Commercial Heifers and Does
- **Upcoming Show Dates**
 - **SW District Livestock Show:** January 29 – February 2nd, 2017
 - **Dixie National Junior Roundup:** February 2 – 9th, 2017

Rankin County Livestock Show: January 20-21st, 2017

Friday

- Weigh-in: 10-3 pm, all animals in the barn by 3 pm
- Health Certificates: 3-5 pm, Dr. McLeod
- Youth Skill-a-thon: 3:30-5 pm
- Celebrity Showmanship: 6 pm
- Meal: 6:30 pm
- Shows, after dinner: Market Hog and Lambs

Saturday

- Beef Show (Steers, Commercial Heifers, Breeding)
- Dairy Goats, Market Goats and Commercial Does

*Please check livestock letter for more details.

Youth Skill-a-thon

This year we decided to add an educational component to our livestock show. There will be a youth skill-a-thon after weigh-ins, from 3:30 – 5 pm. There will be a Junior (ages 8-13 years old) and a Senior (14-18 years old) Division. Teams will be comprised of 3 or 4 youth per team that are in the same age division (Junior and Senior). There will be 5 stations (beef cattle, lambs, swine, dairy goats and meat goats). Each team will have 15 minutes to answer the questions at that station for that particular species. Topics will cover general information, terminology, breeds, feeds, equipment, parts, etc. There will be a word bank/multiple choice for each station. There will be awards for the overall Junior and Senior teams. Heather is working on a study packet for youth to study from and we will have practice at our next **Junior RCLA Board meeting Monday, December 12th, 6 pm at the Extension Office.** All youth are welcome to come to our Jr. Board meeting! **Youth will have to turn in their names of their team by 3 pm Friday, January 20th.** All youth are encouraged to participate. If any youth cannot find a team, and want to participate please let me know!

Driving for the Backdrop Swine Clinic - December 3rd!

**HINDS COMMUNITY
COLLEGE SHOW ARENA**
Raymond, Mississippi

SCHEDULE	10:00-11:00 am	Back to Basics
	11:15-12:30 am	Daily Grind
	Lunch Break	
	1:15-2:15 pm	Crunch time
	2:30-3:30 pm	How'd They Do That
	3:45 pm	Showmanship Contest

ENTER ONLINE @ LMLIVESTOCK.COM

Entry Information: Entry Deadline: November 30, 2016
Clinic Fee: \$50 - Late Fee: \$65 after November 30th
Entry Fees paid upon arrival to camp.

Contact Information: Lurlinda Soignier (662)207-0037
Email: l.soignier@msstate.edu

Driving for the Backdrop

DECEMBER 3RD, 2016

Great Opportunity!

Photography Club

Cloverbud Corner (5-7 year olds)

If you are new to 4-H and have a Cloverbud, then come to our next meeting and join the fun! We will be having our next meeting on **Monday, December 12th, 5:30 pm** at the Extension Office.

Please bring a quart-sized jar with a two piece-canning lid! We will be learning about measuring ingredients and more! In order to better estimate expenses on ingredients please RSVP to the meeting by Dec. 5th to heather.jennings@msstate.edu

Deadlines & Upcoming Events

Dec. 5: Shooting Sports Sign-Up **Returning Shooters**
Dec. 6: Shooting Sports Sign-Up **New Shooters**
Dec. 12: Cloverbud Meeting, 5:30 pm @ Ext. Office
Dec. 12: RCLA Junior Board Meeting, 6 pm @ Ext. Office
Dec. 14: Retinal Imaging, 8-1 pm, Raymond
Jan. 2: Shooting Sports Safety Meeting, 6 pm @ Extension Office
Jan. 9: Cloverbud Meeting, 5:30 pm @ Extension Office
Feb. 13: County 4-H Meeting, 6 pm @ Ext. Office
Feb. 13: 4-H State Ambassador Applications due to Office
Feb. 20: Sewing Informational Meeting, 6 pm @ Extension Office



We have started a Photography Club and will be having monthly meetings starting January 2017. If you are interested in joining the club or have questions please contact me by email/phone (heather.jennings@msstate.edu or 601.825.1462) so I can get you more information!

Sewing Club

Interested in learning about sewing? We will start another year of our Sewing Interest Group and want to invite all members to our **Sewing Informational Meeting Monday, February 20th, 6 pm at the Extension Office**. At the informational meeting we will discuss more about the sewing project and the plan for the meeting dates in the spring. Spaces are limited in the Sewing Club, so please RSVP to me by email/phone (heather.jennings@msstate.edu or 601.825.1462) so I can reserve your space. **Spaces will be first come, first serve based on the RSVP.**

4-H State Ambassador Program

A 4-H Ambassador is an authorized representative of the Mississippi State University Extension Youth Development Program. A 4-H Ambassador is a self-motivated, enthusiastic leader who promotes 4-H using the skills, knowledge, and leadership abilities acquired in 4-H with people. Outstanding young people with proven excellence in 4-H achievement and citizenship have the opportunity to become a State 4-H Ambassador. We are now taking applications for the 4-H State Ambassador Program! Please visit the following link to learn more about the 4-H State Ambassador Program and the criteria for applying: <http://extension.msstate.edu/4%E2%80%93h/leadership-and-citizenship/ambassador-program>.

Required materials: cover letter, 4-H vita, and two letters of support to the local county Extension office are due to our office by: **Monday, February 13th**. I am more than happy to sit down with any youth that wishes to apply for this program and help with the above materials.