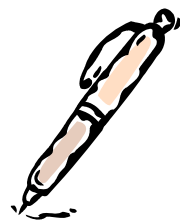




Important Dates



December 2007

- 1 Possession Date for Swine
- 3 Jr. Leader Officer Meeting, 4-H Office
- 3 Body Walk, Evangeline Elementary
- 4 Livestock Advisory Board Meeting, 4-H Office
- 4 Body Walk, St. Genevieve Elementary
- 5 Body Walk, Carencro Heights
- 5 4-H Food for Families Drive, Cajundome
- 6-7 Body Walk, E. Gallet Elementary
- 7 Award of Excellence Applications Due, 4-H Office
- 7 Key Club Applications Due, 4-H Office
- 7 Livestock Hoof Trimming Clinic, Blackham Coliseum
- 10 Jr. Leader Meeting, 4-H Office
- 17-18 Agents' Annual Conference, Baton Rouge
- 24-1 Christmas Holiday/New Year's Holiday, 4-H Office Closed

January 2008

- 4-5 State Executive Committee Meeting, Camp Grant Walker
- 7 Showing Character Meeting, 4-H Office
- 7 January Records Due, 4-H Office: (Governor's & Superintendent's Livestock Awards Attorney General's Livestock Leader Award)
- 8 Horse Advisory Meeting, 4-H Office
- 9 First Day of Club Meetings
- 10-13 Mid-Winter Rodeo, Blackham Coliseum
- 14 Jr. Leader Meeting, 4-H Office
- 17-19 Parish Livestock Show Set Up, Blackham Coliseum
- 17-19 Parish Livestock Show & Sale, Blackham Coliseum
- 18 Arbor Day in Louisiana
- 21 M.L.K. Holiday, 4-H Office Closed
- 23-26 Acadiana District Livestock Show, Blackham Coliseum

4-H Night with N.O. Hornets

4-H Night with the New Orleans Hornets will be Friday, February 22, 2008. The game against the Houston Rockets will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the New Orleans Hornets Arena, New Orleans, LA.

If your or your club is interested in getting tickets (\$18.00 each person), you can may request more information from the 4-H Agents at 291-7090 or on our parish website.



Sincerely,

Angie Arnould

Angie Arnould
Associate County Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish

Charles Hebert

Charles Hebert
County Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish

Nikki Mouch

Nikki Mouch
Assistant County Agent, 4-H Youth Development
Lafayette Parish



Lafayette 4-H Hotline

Invest in 4-H Youth Development

Show your commitment to the largest youth development organization in Louisiana as a Christmas present for family and friends. Support the 4-H goal of helping our young people "learn by doing"- to acquire skills that benefit them, their families and their communities throughout their lives. They could arrive in time for Christmas.



The cost for the 4-H plate is \$25 per year in addition to regular registration fees. Of the additional \$25 fee, \$15 goes to the Louisiana 4-H Foundation and \$10 to the 4-H Foundation in the parish where the plate was sold. The proceeds help fund various 4-H educational programs throughout the state each year. The following guidelines and procedures should be followed when applying for the new 4-H license plate:

- ◆ Submit a photocopy of your vehicle registration certificate, proof of insurance and a brief note stating that you are applying for the 4-H license plate.
- ◆ Fees: Contact the SPECIAL & DEALER PLATE UNIT of the Office of Motor Vehicles at 225-925-6371 or 1-877-368-5463 with your current license plate number, and they will calculate your fees. Or visit the following Web site at www.expresslane.org for a Special Plate calculation. *Please note: credit will be given on the unused portion of the current plate.*

Automobiles, trucks and motor homes are issued two-year validation stickers. You may apply in person at the Office of Motor Vehicles Headquarters 97979 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge) or by mail to the following address:

Attn: Special Plate Unit Office of Motor Vehicles
P.O. Box 64886
Baton Rouge, La. 70896-4886

Call Eric Eskew with the Louisiana 4-H Foundation at 225-578-2972 or email him at: eaeskew@agcenter.lsu.edu. Please consider supporting Louisiana 4-H and the LSU AgCenter by purchasing a prestige 4-H license plate.

December 2007

Lafayette Office
1010 Lafayette St., Ste 325
Lafayette, LA 70501
Phone: 337-291-7090
Fax 337-291-7099
www.lsuagcenter.com

Points of interest:

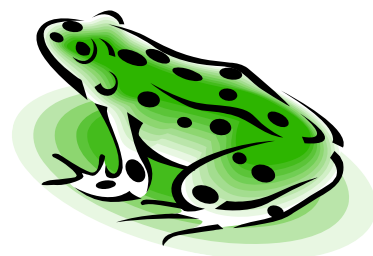
- ☉ Coastal Creatures
- ☉ December CRD
- ☉ Livestock News
- ☉ Character Counts!
- ☉ Governor's & Superintendent's Award
- ☉ Award of Excellence
- ☉ Club of the Month
- ☉ Arbor Day
- ☉ Key Club Award
- ☉ Clover Corner
- ☉ Dates to Remember
- ☉ 4-H Night with the N.O. Hornets



It is the policy of the LSU AgCenter, Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age or disability. If you have a disability which requires special assistance for your participation in any aforementioned activity, please contact the Lafayette 4-H office at 291-7090.

Coastal Creatures: Fables, Folklore, & Phobias: Facts about Frogs

Our educational program at the monthly club meetings will focus on wetlands and the creatures that live in them. Each lesson will address specific GLE's that will be hopefully be helpful in standardize testing.



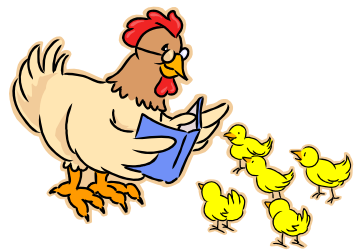
What's inside a frog? What is the difference between a frog and a toad? There are many intriguing facts about frogs. A frog has a tail as a baby and webbed feet as an adult to use in swimming. It has gills as a baby and lungs as an adult for breathing. Its skin also helps it breathe. A frog can leap up to 20 times its body length! And its mating call can be heard over a mile away. Frogs are beneficial creatures of our state because they eat insects, worms, and snails that can wreak havoc in a garden or to a crop.

December CRD

Your Food For Families Drive should be in full swing now or nearly completed. All 4-H clubs have done such a terrific job in collecting canned goods and other items for the needy. You should all be very proud of the work you've done. Keep it up and set your DVD's to record the Meet Your Neighbor program on TV 10 on December 5, 2007, the day of the Food for Families Drive.

Thanks to all clubs who participated in this annual event. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

Livestock News



The 4-H Livestock shows are fast approaching. Deadline for exhibitors to turn in livestock show entry forms was November 15, 2007. We hope you got yours in on time. Upcoming activities include:

Parish Show & Sale - January 17-19, 2008

District Show - January 24-26, 2008

State Show - February 9-16, 2008

Character Counts

December is a great month for *caring* and that's the reason the Pillar of the Month for December just happens to be "CARING". All of us should be caring individuals. We should be compassionate, kind, loving and considerate of others. Another ways to be a caring person is to be thankful and express gratitude for what others do for you. Don't ever be mean, cruel, or insensitive.

All of these are suggestions for all of us to follow, especially during the holiday season. Remember, a good person is someone to look up to and admire; a person who lives according to the "Six Pillars of Character".

Governor's & Superintendent's Awards

Governor's and Superintendent's awards are given to recognize 4-H members in Livestock and Poultry projects with emphasis on production. The 4-H members must complete the Louisiana Report Form with a 4-H story. The state winners will receive a plaque during the state lives tock show in February.



The Governor's Award will be presented to two senior 4-H members. He/she must be 14 years old on or before January 1, 2008. The Superintendent's Award will be presented to two Junior 4-H members. He/she must be under 14 years old on January 1, 2008. These records should be submitted to the 4-H office by **January 7, 2008**. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Mr. Charles at 291-7090.

Award of Excellence

The Louisiana 4-H Foundation Award of Excellence for Junior 4-H members is an award any 4-H'er should be proud to receive. Only a select group of 4-H'ers will be given this honor during 4-H Honors Program ceremonies.

The basis of the award will be on a scorecard which was mailed to all qualified 4-H'ers. The 4-H'er must be under 14 years of age on January 1 of this school year, must be in the 7th or 8th grade, must have at least two years of

4-H club work and must score at least 100 points on the application and can win the award only once. Submit completed scorecard to 4-H agents no later than **December 7, 2007**.

Club of the Month

In general, all November 4-H meetings were very good. Meetings were a real pleasure to attend. The officers and members are doing a great job in conducting the meetings and taking care of club business.

Judging for Club-of-the-Month will continue this month. Here are a few items we will be looking for at club meetings the rest of the school year:

- * The secretary's minutes should be written and read as minutes. Do not use the notes taken at the meeting on the information sheet.
- * CRD, Treasurer, and Reporter reports should be given, using the forms handed out earlier. A report should be at least one paragraph long.
- * The Program Leaders should have a Project Report, Guest Speaker, Skit or Play, or a Demonstration to get the full points in this part of the meeting.
- * A member, not an officer, should make motions and second the motions.
- * Listen carefully to what the president is saying. If he/she asked, "Are there any corrections to the minutes?" Don't make a motion! Wait until asked.

To see a list of last month's Club of the Month winners please go to our parish website.

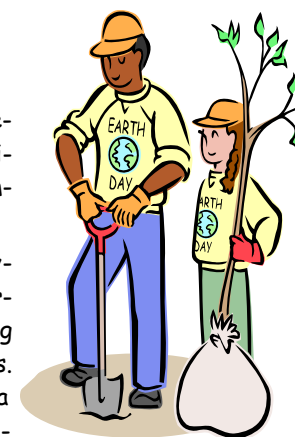
Arbor Day

Each year Arbor Day is celebrated in Louisiana on the third Friday in January. That date this coming year is **January 18, 2008**.

Arbor Day is a nationally-celebrated observance that encourages people to conduct tree planting and learn about proper care of trees. When determining a location for a new tree it begins with careful planning. With a little research for the right tree, it can add a new attraction to your landscape. A few points to consider are to avoid collisions with power lines, sewage lines and foundations of buildings.

We are inviting all clubs to do something special for Arbor Day as the January CRD project. Here are a few suggestions:

- * Trees can be planted at school or on other public property, with permission.
- * Trees could be planted and dedicated as a memorial, a living monument to those who have made contributions to your community or school.



Key Club Award

The Louisiana 4-H Foundation Key Club Award is for Senior 4-H members is an award any 4-H'er should be proud to receive. Only a select group of 4-H'ers will be given this honor during 4-H Honors Program ceremonies.

The basis of the award will be on a scorecard which was mailed to all qualified 4-H'ers. The 4-H'er must be 16 years of age on January 1 of this school year., must have at least three years of 4-H club work, have completed one year of Junior Leadership and must score at least 140 points on the application and can win the award only once. Submit completed scorecard to 4-H agents no later than **December 7, 2007**.

Clover Corner

Hi New 4-H Members!

I'm back again as promised and checking on your 4-H work. How is that book coming along? I made lots of suggestions in the November *Hotline* and if you finished all of the work, you're doing great.

December is a good month to work on some of the pages towards the front of the book. Last month I suggested you could get a head start on pages 12 to 23. If you haven't started, now is the time. This section starts with "Let's Look At You". This is a fun section because you are the "star". When you learn to sew on a button on page 13 don't sew it right on the page, follow the directions carefully. Follow step 4 on page 14 when you do the backstitch!

All of the food projects are fun. Be sure to write down everything you did. The Dig Deeper on Page 17 is easy, don't forget it.

After the *Working with Children* Section is the *Energy* Section. Do all of it, you probably learned some of this in a Science class. Before you know it, that section is finished.

The *Animals and Us* Section is a good one to do when the weather is bad. All of it can be done indoors, and it's fun, too. It includes pages 47 to 55.

Use the holidays to do things you skipped. In January, finish the Plant Section and the Environment Section. You can get started on these if you want to. We are going to also talk about records, the back of the book, and then you are finished.

Remember to keep your book neat and clean and decorate it if you wish. Pictures are always a good idea. Have a safe and happy holiday and see you next month.

Happy Holidays!

Yours Truly,

Clover

