



Lafayette 4-H Hotline

April 2009

Driving Safety



How many of you have your driver's license? How many of you have your learners permit? Getting a driver's license is a right of passage we all look forward to. It is also a tremendous responsibility and it is important to always remember that. We will be talking about speed limits, cell phone use, alcohol, seat belts, and the high cost of insurance for teenage drivers.

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Points of interest:

- ☉ Outstanding Senior Award
- ☉ Achievement Day
- ☉ Scorecards
- ☉ Candy Sale Update
- ☉ Character Counts
- ☉ Home Bank Awards
- ☉ Horse Entry Forms
- ☉ Telephone Book Recycling
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- ☉ Evaluation
- ☉ Camp Grant Walker
- ☉ Points of Interest
- ☉ 4-H Honors Program
- ☉ Club of the Month

Always follow these safety rules:

- Use turn signals.
- Give the right of way.
- Anticipate problem drivers
- Don't text message while you're driving
- Don't talk on the cell phone while driving
- Be aware of what's going on around you on the road.
- Maintain speed limits or adjust speeds to suit road conditions
- Never allow more passengers than there are seat belts in your car
- Be a courteous driver
- Keep alcohol out of your car
- Leave yourself an out
- Keep your cool while on the road

Skin Safety



The body is made up of living cells and like-cells join together to form tissues. The skin is the largest organ of the body consisting of tissues structurally joined together to perform specific functions. The four main functions are protection, maintenance of body temperature, excretion, and perception of stimuli (sensitivity).

Many factors can cause damage to the skin. Everyone is at risk for damage from sun exposure, plant or insect toxins, or injury from cuts, scrapes and burns. A small color change from the natural skin tone due to sun exposure indicates some skin damage. Sunburn is even more severe and can be very serious. While different skin types react differently to sun exposure, all skin types are a risk. It is very important to take good care of our skin and in this month's lesson we will learn how.



Outstanding Senior Award

Attention all 12th grade 4-H'ers! Lookout for an application for the Outstanding Senior Award in the mail. These awards will be given out at the 4-H Honors Program on Thursday, **May 7th**. If you would like to be considered for this award, complete the application and get it back to the 4-H Office by **April 15th**. If you did not get an application, call the 4-H Office at 291-7090.



Achievement Day



Hats off to all of the 4-H members, leaders, parents and guests who took part in the 2009 Lafayette Parish 4-H Achievement Day. It was a busy day with new activities for all.

A special *thank you* goes out to *Ms. Magee*, Principal at Lafayette Middle, for allowing us to use the beautiful facilities.

Scorecards

The 4-H Scorecard for Awards was given out during March meetings. By now, everyone needing one should have received a copy. All 4-H members interested in being considered as an Outstanding 4-H'er must complete a scorecard.

Scorecards must include your signature, your parent's signature and your leader's signature. Scorecards are due to leaders no later than **April 20** and all are due to the 4-H Office no later than **April 22**.



Candy Sale Update

Our annual 4-H Foundation Candy Sale has been another success. We would like to say thanks to the many hard working leaders and 4-H members. Of our 50 clubs, 12 clubs took part in this fund-raiser. The top selling club will receive a pizza party and the second through fifth place clubs will receive a cookie party. The winners are as follows:

- 1st Place - G.T. Lindon
- 2nd Place - Youngsville Middle
- 3rd Place - Carencro Catholic
- 4th Place - LCA
- 5th Place - St. Genevieve Elementary



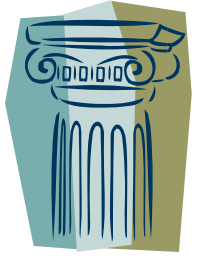
Character Counts

Decisions happen quickly, but the results can last a lifetime. Ethics help by providing a code of values to help us with choices and actions. Ethics is a question of "What is the right thing to do?" The right thing to do isn't always the easy thing to do. Learning to say "no" when you feel like saying "yes" builds character. It's hard. You'll have to think and you may have to give up some things you want.

How do we make good decisions? Before you do or say anything, think how the decision will affect the people who will be touched by it. We call these people "stakeholders" because they have a stake in the decision. Do the least amount of harm possible.

- Don't sacrifice integrity, reputation and honor for expediency.
- Core ethical principles (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship) are ground rules, not just factors to consider.
- Be courageous.
- The long run outranks the short run.

When you still can't decide, go with the choice that will produce the most good for more people. Measure *all* of your decisions by these ground rules.



Home Bank Awards



Each year Home Bank recognizes outstanding 4-H clubs. Awards are based on participation throughout the 4-H year. The three ways clubs can receive points are: **1)** through local club activities, **2)** participation in parish-wide activities and **3)** by turning in completed record books.

Plaques will be awarded to the clubs receiving the highest points. These presentations will take place at the Honors Program on the May 7th.

The emphasis of this award is on Completed Record Books turned in this year. The percentage of Record Books will be calculated, along with the club's participation in parish and local activities.

Horse Entry Forms

Members in the horse project should already have received entry forms to enter their horses for the 4-H shows this summer. The entry forms, indicating what classes each horse will be entered in will be due back in the 4-H office by **April 15**.



Telephone Book Recycling



Almost 7000 telephone books were recycled as a result of the 4-H Telephone Book Recycling Project! That's a lot of phone books that we kept out of landfills! If you were involved in this project, you should be very PROUD! Our Lady Fatima 4-H collected the most. They involved their entire school and recycled 2,845 books. Edgar Martin 4-H came in second collecting 1,705 books, and Ernest Gallet brought in 820 books. All together, 10 clubs participated. Thanks for helping address this community need and caring for our environment by recycling phone books. You helped make a difference!

2008-09 Telephone Book Recycling Results

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------|------------|
| Fatima | 2845 | 1st |
| Edgar Martin | 1705 | 2nd |
| Gallet | 820 | 3rd |
| Woodvale | 468 | |
| Scott Middle | 370 | |
| St. Geneveive | 250 | |
| Carencro Heights | 150 | |
| LJ Alleman | 95 | |
| Westside | 70 | |
| Milton | 30 | |
| TOTAL | 6803 | |

4-H University Selection



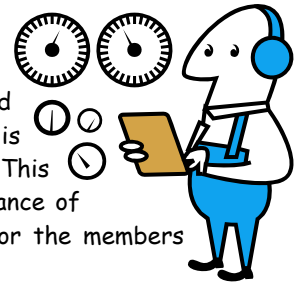
If you are 13 years old or older, you are eligible to participate in state competition this summer from **June 23-26, 2009**, on the LSU campus in Baton Rouge. Over 2,000 4-H club members from throughout the state will be in attendance and it is very important for Lafayette Parish to be well represented. If you are interested in attending, you must contact the us at the 4-H office (291-7090) as soon as possible.

The following items will be considered when selecting participants:

1. *Previous year's 4-H U/State Records performance.*
2. *Participation in Junior Leadership*
3. *Participation/Performance in Parish Contest(s)*
4. *Completion of 4-H Record Book*
5. *Overall activeness in 4-H*

If we do not hear from you, we'll assume you do not wish to be considered. Don't pass up this opportunity to meet new people and show off what you can do. Make every effort to be a part of Lafayette's Winning 4-H University team.

Evaluation



Last month, we highlighted how important conducting service is -learning that is truly meaningful. This month we will discuss the importance of evaluating your service project for the members and their community.

Evaluation is essential and can be quite simple to do. The two purposes of evaluating a community service-learning program are (1) to measure the impact of the program on the participant, the collaborating partners and on the community and (2) to help improve the program so it can be more effective in the coming years. The program impact can measure the impact on recipients, students, and the community.

Information or results can capture valuable information in a variation of ways. Some could include using quotes, photos, videos, journaling and media scrapbooks. Accurate records should be kept of the numbers of participants, leaders, community partners and hours contributed as well as the number of people served or "products" produced. Also, plan to obtain information from participants, community partners, adult supervisors, parents and service recipients. You can use mailed questionnaires, telephone interviews or focus groups. Keep the number of questions short.

Research indicates that youth that have participated in service-learning programs have a positive attitude about school, themselves, others and their community. In addition, they are more aware of their community beyond the school setting and usually have better relations between adults and youth engaged in service.

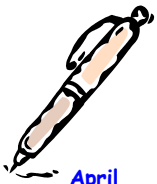
Next month, we will highlight the importance of celebration.

Camp Grant Walker



Please don't forget that 4-H Camp is scheduled for July 20 - 24, 2009. There are still spaces available. If you are interested in attending, please download the application form from our website, complete it and return it to your school leader to sign and have school administrator sign. . All applications should be submitted through your 4-H leader at your school.

Camp letters will be mailed to campers soon. We hope you will join us.



Important Dates



April

- 1-3, 6-8 LEAP & IOWA
- 2 Jr. Leader Officer Meeting
- 4 Achievement Day, Lafayette Middle
- 10 **GOOD FRIDAY, OFFICE CLOSED**
- 14 Let's Go Fishing Clinic
- 14 Bowling Against Dystrophy, Acadiana Lanes
- 15 - 17 Challenge Camp, Camp Grant Walker
- 15 Outstanding Senior Award Applications Due
- 15 Livestock Scholarship Applications Due
- 15 Garden Contest Applications Due
- 16 Jr. Leader Meeting, 4-H Office
- 20 4-H Scorecards Due to Leaders
- 20 -24 Youth Wetlands Week
- 21 State Ambassador Contests, Baton Rouge, LA
- 22 4-H Scorecards Due, 4-H Office
- 30 Jr. Leader Banquet
- 30 4-H Information - Registration Forms/Officer Information Due, 4-H Office
- 30 Jr. Leader Banquet, 4-H Office

May

- 1 4-H University State Officer Information Due, Baton Rouge, LA
- 1 Barnyard Bash, Blackham Coliseum
- 7 4-H Honor's Night, Lafayette Middle School
- 8-9 4-H Horse Camp, Sugarena, New Iberia
- 26 Parish 4-H University Meeting, 4-H Office
- TBA Cattle Hoof Trimming Clinic

June 2008

- 3 4-H Day at the Capitol
- 14 Parish Horse Show, Blackham Coliseum
- 23-26 State 4-H University, LSU
- TBA Garden Contest Awards Reception & Clinic, 4-H Office

4-H Honors Program



As recommended by our 4-H Advisory Committee, we will honor our Outstanding 4-H'ers at our 4-H Honors Program. This event is scheduled for May 7 at Lafayette Middle School in the auditorium. The top 100 4-H'ers in the parish will be recognized along with other awards won during the year.

Award of Excellence, Key Club winners, Outstanding Seniors and Brackin-Bowles Awards will be presented at that time also.

All 4-H'ers are to complete a 4-H Scorecard which were delivered to you prior to April. We're asking all leaders to: 1) select one outstanding 4-H member from your club, 2) send that name and all scorecards to the 4-H Office by April 8. Agents will then select approximately 50 other outstanding members from throughout the parish.

Sincerely,

Angie Arnould

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

Club of the Month

To view a list of the winning clubs, go to: http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/Lafayette/Features/4-H/Contest_Results/ and click on Club of the Month Results.

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.