THE 4-H CHATTERBOX
OCTOBER 2026

I Pledge: My Head to Clearer Thinking, My Heart to Greater Loyalty, My Hands to Larger Service and My Health to Better Living for My Club, My Community, My Country and My World.

OCTOBER 2026

1 - Shooting Sports Info. Meeting, Virtual, 4:30 P.M.
4-10 - **National 4-H Week: "4-H-Where Future Leaders Grow"**
9- Club Silver Tray Award Forms Due
10 – 4-H STEM Robotics Workshop, 4-H Office, 9:00 A.M.
21 - Jr. Leader Membership Dues & Meeting, 4:30 P.M.
22 - Fall Activity Day, Ag Arena Opelousas, 4:00 P.M.
28- Louisiana State Fair, Shreveport
Nov. 15

NOVEMBER 2026

1- **4-H Dues Deadline, $7.00/Member**
2 – Elementary Workshop Day Registration Deadline
10 - Jr. Leader Meeting, 4-H Office, 4:30 P.M.
20-21 - Jim Bowie Livestock Show, Ag Arena
24 – Elementary Workshop Day, 4-H Office, 9:00A.M.
26 - Thanksgiving

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK
OCTOBER 4-10, 2026

Celebrate National 4-H Week. **4-H is 118 YEARS OLD in Louisiana! Theme: "4-H-Where Future Leaders Grow".** Suggested activities for the week are poster contests, green & white day, teacher appreciation, paint the school green, community service project. **4-H clubs that conduct at least 5 activities will be recognized with a Silver Tray Award.**

St. Landry 4-H will also host different daily themed activities during the week on our St. Landry 4-H Facebook page. **4-H'ers that participate each day, post photo, will receive a 4-H surprise.**



JIM BOWIE LIVESTOCK SHOW

The Jim Bowie Livestock Show will be ***November 20-21, 2026,*** at the Ag Arena in Opelousas. There will be Breeding/Market Lamb and Breeding/Market Goat Show on Friday night and Dairy Breeding and Beef Breeding Show on Saturday. Showmanship will also be included. Contact Megan Plattsmier at 337-948-0561 for more information.

HORSE & LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS

To exhibit horses or livestock (beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, swine, goats, poultry, and rabbits), contact Megan Plattsmier at 948-0561.

St. Landry Parish 4-H follows two show programs, the LSU State Show & the Southern University Livestock Show. Possession dates (date you acquire the animal at your home) are listed below:

ANIMAL SPECIE	LSU	SOUTHERN
Steers	8/14/26	10/1/26
Comm Does/Ewes Beef/Dairy	11/9/26	
Miniature Cattle	11/16/26	
Beef/Dairy Breeding	11/9/26	11/1/26
Market Lamb/Goat	11/9/26	11/1/26
Breeding Sheep/Goat	11/9/26	
Market Swine	12/1/26	12/1/26
Exhibition Chickens	11/9/26	
Exhibition Rabbits	11/17/26	
Horse	4/1/27	
Rabbit Meat Pen (can't be over 70 days old)	12/17/26	

If you are planning to exhibit horses or livestock this year in 4-H, you need to log into your 4-H Online account. Once in your 4-H Online account and your profile you will need to add St. Landry 4-H Livestock and/or Horse Project Club under your clubs selected. If your 4-H enrollment has already been approved in 4-H Online get in touch with Mrs. Megan Plattsmier to add you to the club. Animals are not provided by 4-H. Families must purchase the animal(s) for 4-H'ers to show.



4-H Club Officers

Each club should have officers decided upon by the ***November Meeting***. Suggested officers are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Reporter. An installation program will be conducted by your **4-H Club Leader or 4-H Agent**.

The LSU Agricultural Center, a statewide campus of the LSU System, and Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, a statewide campus of the Southern University System, provide equal opportunities in programs and employment. Louisiana State University and A&M College, Southern University and A&M College, Louisiana parish governing bodies, and United State Department of Agriculture cooperating.

JUNIOR LEADER MEETING

The October meeting will be ***Wednesday, October 21, 2026, from 4:30-6:00 p.m.*** **at the Extension Office**. A business meeting and educational program will be conducted**. Junior Leader Club is open to 7th-12th grade 4-H members only.** Submit the **online Enrollment Form**, located by scanning the QR Code below, and **$15.00** membership fee to enroll. **Fees are due by November 1, 2026, to remain on the mailing list.**

SHOOTING SPORTS CLUB

Participation in this Outdoor Skills Program is not limited by skill or physical abilities and is open to youth ages 4th-12th grade regardless of where you attend school. Disciplines offered are Shotgun, Rifle and Archery.

4-H'ers can sign up for multiple disciplines and will need to bring all their own equipment (including shells for shotgun) to practices and competitions but some equipment will be provided. ***A virtual Microsoft Teams informational meeting about the program will be held on Thursday, October 1, 2026, from 4:30-5:30 p.m.***

To sign up for the Shooting Sports Club you will need to log into your 4-H Online account. Registration will be through 4-H Online under events – 2026-2027 St. Landry Parish 4-H Shooting Sports Club. The registration fee is $25.00 and can be paid online if you choose. If you don't pay online, checks or money order need to be made payable to St. Landry 4-H and mailed to the St. Landry 4-H Office no later than Friday, October 30, 2026. In the check memo line please identify the child's name.

LSU AgCenter- Cooperative Extension Service
St. Landry Parish Extension Office
1065 Hwy 749, Suite A
Opelousas, LA 70570
337-948-0561

St. Landry Parish LSU AgCenter Website:

https://www.lsuagcenter.com/portals/our_offices/parishes/st%20landry

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Membership and participation in activities and events are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, veteran status or disability. If you have a disability that requires special accommodation for your participation in an activity please contact us 2 weeks in advance of activity at 337-948-0561.

FALL ACTIVITY DAY

This event will be held ***Thursday, October 22, 2026, at the Ag Arena in Opelousas (Behind the Yambilee Building on Hwy. 190).*** **Registration** begins at **4:00 P.M.** and **Contest Judging** begins at **4:30 P.M.**

PET CONTEST RULES – 1 pet per 4-H'er

- **Pet Categories**
  1. Dog – must be on a leash, have rabies tag and be tame.
  2. Cat – must be on a leash or in a pet carrier.
  3. Bird – in a cage (no chickens, turkeys, ducks, or geese).
  4. Rabbit – in a cage.
  5. Reptile – in a cage.
  6. Rodent – in a cage.
- Only pets in the pet categories listed can be exhibited. DO NOT bring livestock animals.
- **Awards to be given in each category:** Most Colorful, Most 4-H Spirited, Best Behaved, Best Groomed, Pet & Owner Look-A-Likes

POSTER CONTEST RULES – 1 poster per 4-H'er

- **Theme: "4-H – Where Future Leaders Grow"**
- Use standard size poster, any color, make creative use of theme. **(NO GLITTER)**
- Information needed on back of poster are Child's Name, School, and Grade

PUMPKIN CONTEST RULES – 1 per 4-H'er

- Each 4-H member may enter ONLY one pumpkin.
- **Pumpkin must fit into one of these 3 categories: Best Holiday Spirit, Best 4-H Themed, Most Creative**
- Needs to be created by the 4-H member.
- Acceptable decorations: carving, paint, makers, clothes, etc. (NO GLITTER)

ELEMENTARY WORKSHOP DAY

On ***Tuesday, November 24, 2026,*** at the 4-H Office (Next to National Guard Armory/Airport Road), **4th-6th Grade** 4-H members will have the opportunity to **select two** out of three "hands on" workshops.

1. Nature's Art – create stained glass art piece and a toad abode.
2. Food & Fitness – make fun healthy snacks and participate in a fitness activity.
3. STEM Junk Bots – build robots from recycled materials.

This workshop is ***LIMITED TO THE FIRST 50 4-H'ERS*** that register. **The cost is *$15.00*. Deadline to register is *Monday, November 2, 2026.***

- **Registration/Check In - 9:00-9:15 A.M.**
- **Workshops End – 11:30 P.M.**

To participate, 4-H'ers must pre-register by logging into your 4-H Online account. **Registration will be through 4-H Online under events – 2026 St. Landry Parish 4-H Elementary Workshop Day. Registration fee is $15.00 and can be paid online if you choose. If you don't pay online,** check or money order need to be made **payable to St. Landry Parish 4-H and mailed to the St. Landry 4-H Office no later than November 2, 2026. In the check memo line please identify the child's name.**