

Open registration available

# Work of county 4-Hers pays off with wins

By Judith Brown  
Staff Writer

At its annual Laurens County 4-H Achievement Banquet last weekend, winners were named for their accomplishments during the 2017-2018 4-H year.

Held at Clinton First Presbyterian's Christian Life Center, it was sponsored by the Laurens County 4-H Volunteer Advisory Council with assistance by the Clinton FFA. The evening included dozens of awards within the 4-Hers' specific project areas, and the participants include children and young people ranging in age from 5 years old to 18.

Last year more than 120 students were active in the Laurens County 4-H, said Clemson Extension 4-H agent Ashley McCarter, and the students participated in a wide variety of project areas.

"In order to complete a project, 4-Hers must partici-

pate in various activities throughout the year and submit a completed 4-H record book for judging," McCarter said.

A record book includes all aspects of their project, including their financial records, health records of animals, time management and educational elements.

"It's teaching the importance of record keeping," McCarter said. "We start them early so they become familiar with it, and by the time they are senior 4-Hers, it hopefully has become a habit."

Projects are not specific to agriculture-related fields, McCarter said.

"We have health and lifestyle, leadership, community service and through all the projects they learn skills that will help them be successful," McCarter said. "The sooner they learn them the better and children can begin in 4-H as early as five years old in almost every project

area. By the time they are finishing high school, these kids are ready for whatever their next step is when they age out," McCarter said.

The banquet celebrated four primary award winners and individual project winners in every age group.

The 2017-2018 overall winners included Morgan Marlett as Outstanding Senior 4-Her; Anna Barrett Penland as Outstanding Junior 4-Her; Julia Kerber, who was given the Maudelle Finley 4-H Spirit Award and Heather Wilson, winner of the Rose Torrey Award for Volunteerism in 4-H.

Animal project winners were named in Bucket Calf, Dog, Rabbit, Winter Market Swine Project, Dairy Heifer Project, Beef, Horse, Meat Goat and Honey Bee projects.

4-Hers were also named as winners in the Small Garden Project, Barrow Project, Wildlife Food Plot Project, Resume and Cover Letter Contest and Portfolio Contest.

For those who are interested in pursuing potential 4-H projects, there is still time for open registration for several spring projects, and anyone ages 5 through 18 can get involved, whether or not they have participated in the past, McCarter said.

"The spring projects with open registration right now include the Rabbit Project, the Tomato Project, the Meat Goat Project and the Small Garden Project," McCarter said.

While some space would be needed for the meat goat, she said, the rabbit, tomato and small garden projects are ideal for urban settings because they can include container gardens or raised beds, and small cages for the rabbits.

For information on these or the many other projects offered through 4-H, either call McCarter at 864-984-2514 ext. 113, or email her at [asmccar@clmson.edu](mailto:asmccar@clmson.edu).



Julia Kerber



Morgan Marlett



Anna Barrett Penland



Heather Wilson



Lyman D. Mathis

## OBITUARY

### Lyman D. Mathis

Lyman Dean "Cowboy" Mathis, 88, of Hickory Tavern, husband of Betty Mathis for 60 years, passed into the presence of his Lord peacefully on Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

Mr. Mathis was born in Gaffney to the late Fred Lee Mathis and Bonnie Lee Mathis. He was a member of Word of Life Ministries International and was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He was a member of the Old English Bantam Club and a charter member of the Laurens County Saddle Club. Cowboy was the proprietor of Circle M Ranch. He graduated from Mountville High School and retired from Cryovac.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are three daughters, Bonnie Martin, Kim Smith and

husband, Larry, and Lisa Black and husband, Dale; two brothers, Dennis Mathis and wife, Anne, and Don Mathis and wife, Susan; two sisters, Monnie Jacks and Gail Queen; seven grandchildren, Susie Gunter and husband, Brandon, Chris Teague, Josh Black, Constance Martin and husband, Josh, Matthew Smith, Michael Smith and wife, Kayla, and Luke Black and wife, Aly; and six great-grandchildren, Nick Jones, Bud Jones, Madelynn Martin, Kylee Wentz, Hattie Wentz, and Charlotte Gunter. He was predeceased by two sisters, Pauline Reynolds and Freddie Young.

A Celebration of Cowboy's Life was held March 30 at Word of Life Ministries, officiated by the Revs. John Smith and Philip Leonhardt. Burial was in the Rabun Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, with Military Honors.

Memorials may be made to Boys Farm Incorporated, P.O. Box 713, Newberry, SC 29108; or to Word of Life Ministries, 1027 West Georgia Road, Simpsonville, SC 29680.

Fletcher Funeral Service

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Photo by Judith Brown

**AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH** — Clinton Mayor Bob McLean, right, presents a proclamation naming April as Autism Awareness Month to Farrah Benson, the behavior coach for Clinton District 56, and to BJ and Dana Cauble and their children Parker and Oakley.

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