



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION



REPORTER'S NEWS South County Patriots 4-H Club Report January 18, 2026 Submitted By: Emma Smith

The monthly meeting of the South County Patriots was held on January 18, 2026 at 2:30pm in Ridge, MD. Savannah Pierce, President, called the meeting to order at 2:32 pm. Roll call was answered by 5 members who answered the question, "What are your main goals for 4-H this year?" Emma Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance and Savannah Pierce led the 4-H Pledge.

Josephine Stewart, provided the Treasurer report. The only major expenses in November and December was the club Christmas party. There are no planned expenditures until March for the banquet and quarter auction fundraiser.

Heather Pierce reminded the club that record books are due to the 4-H office by February 2, 2026, and they must be submitted by a 4-H Leader. Anyone who does not submit a record book cannot enter exhibits in the fair the following year in 4-H. Some members had their completed record book with them and the others will complete it in the upcoming week for signature. Heather discussed all awards and other paperwork due February 2nd, and everything is on track to be submitted on time.

The club discussed and voted on their Friend of 4-H candidates. Heather will provide to the 4-H office.

Heather Pierce asked that all club members sign up by the end of January if possible but no later than the day before the February meeting. Anyone who has not enrolled should not attend the next meeting.

The club reviewed the officer roles for 2026 and there were no questions or concerns. All club members were provided copies of the 2026 plans and they were reviewed to make sure there were no issues that have come up since the last business meeting. A few of the meeting dates/times were adjusted and a new copy will be given to everyone and submitted to the 4-H office. The club will decide in May whether to cancel the June or July meetings due to schedule conflicts or just have those members call in. The club will meet on Halloween and have a party rather than the weekend before.

The 4-H banquet will be held on March 21st at the Leonardtown Firehouse. Emma, Savannah, and Josie volunteered to help at the registration table and Heather will let the 4-H office know. Savannah Pierce made a motion for the club to vote whether to pay for the parents for the banquet with club funds. Emma Smith seconded the motion. The club voted unanimously to pay for the parents and motion carried.

Heather Pierce provided new Diamond Clover forms to those who needed one and they need to be completed before or at the next meeting.

The next quarter auction fundraiser will be March 8th at the fairgrounds. All members need to attend.

The next meeting will be on February 22nd at 2pm at the Ridge Firehouse.

Emma Smith completed her Leadership demonstration, and the club members and parents played a game to practice critical thinking and decision making.

Savannah Pierce moved that the business meeting adjourn at 3:47 pm. Motion seconded by Emma Smith and carried.