



UNIVERSITY OF
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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.



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REPORTER'S NEWS South County Patriots 4-H Club Report February 22, 2026 Submitted By: Bruce Wilson

The monthly meeting of the South County Patriots was held on February 22, 2026 at 2pm at the Ridge Firehouse. The meeting was called to order by Savannah Pierce at 2:02 pm. Roll call was answered by five (5) members. Members stated their name and answered the question, "If money were no object, what would be your dream destination?" Savannah Pierce led the Pledge of Allegiance and Bruce Wilson led the 4-H Pledge.

Josephine Stewart provided the Treasurer's Report. There were no expenses paid out in January. In February, there was a \$10 check cashed for the club's insurance and there will be debit purchases for the gift cards for the two banquet awards.

Old Business- the club discussed due dates for Diamond Clover level 1-4, the upcoming quarter auction fundraiser on March 8th, and 2026 enrollment. The club also discussed ideas for our Friend of 4-H gift. Multiple rounds of votes were completed to determine the dollar amount to spend and what gift to select. In the end the club chose a Tractor Supply gift card and potted Hydrangea plant. Heather will purchase the gift as well as the gift card for the Outstanding 4-H Building Exhibitor of the Year award.

New Business- the county Public Speaking workshop moved to March 11th 6:00-7:30pm and the contest is on March 28th 2:00-4:00pm. There will be no business meeting in March, we will attend our club fundraiser and the awards banquet instead. In April, we will have our club meeting on the 26th from 3:00-5:00pm.

Savannah Pierce moved that the business meeting adjourn at 2:30 pm. Motion seconded by Emma Smith and carried. The club worked on two demonstrations until 3:55pm. Emma Smith completed a craft demonstration and club members painted wood hearts with designs on them. Savannah Pierce completed a hobby demonstration and club members learned how to braid with embroidery thread to make bookmarks to enter in the fair.





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REPORTER'S NEWS
South County Patriots 4-H Club Report
March 21, 2026
Submitted By: Bruce Wilson

South County Patriots members and parents attended the 2025 4-H Banquet in lieu of a meeting for March. At the banquet, three club members volunteered at the registration table. Club members were recognized for many awards this year to include Diamond Clover, multiple fair department trophies and fair special contest trophies, the Outstanding 4-H Building Exhibitor of the Year award, blue ribbons for all record books, multiple Project Pins, and nominations for the 4-H Spirit Award and the Outstanding 4-H'er of the Year award.

We also had our club fundraiser on March 8, 2026 and we were able to raise enough money for each club member to have funds to use for their camps this coming year. Club members helped with set up and tear down and worked at the various stations at the quarter auction selling paddles, quarters, 50/50 tickets, brown bag tickets, and the concession stand.



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REPORTER'S NEWS
South County Patriots 4-H Club Report
April 26, 2026
Submitted By: Bruce Wilson

The monthly meeting of the South County Patriots was held on April 26, 2026, in Ridge, MD. The meeting was called to order by Savannah Pierce at 3:05 pm. Roll call was answered by 5 members. Members stated their name and answered the question, "What is your favorite ice cream flavor or your go-to ice cream truck order?" Savannah Pierce led the Pledge of Allegiance and Bruce Wilson led the 4-H Pledge

Josephine Stewart provided the treasurer's report. In March, the club paid expenses for renting Tolerance Hall, banquet fees, and our Friend of 4-H gift. The profits from the club's fundraiser were deposited. There were no expenses for April. Later in the meeting, the club held discussions and a vote to temporarily cap the amount of funds each club member will have assigned to them for camp/activity expenses since schedule conflicts in the last two years have caused some members to have a larger than normal balance of carryover funds.

The club discussed the currently scheduled meeting dates for the remainder of the year and if any changes should be made. Emma Smith made a motion to cancel the June and July business meetings since there will be club members unavailable (we only have 5 total members as it is) and we will already have 7 business meetings plus other events this year. Garrett Shaw seconded the motion, A vote was held and the motion passed with all in favor. The next club meeting will be May 17th and it will be a longer event to allow for club members to do more complicated demonstrations. Club members will plan to complete any demos that typically take more time because of materials that need to dry or need multipole iterations, as well as any demos that are typically messy or require cooking. Any club members who have food and nutrition or related projects will plan to do a demo that provides a meal or snack for the club and the club leader will provide food as well so that the club has dinner since the meeting is from 3-7pm.

The club discussed how the banquet went and if there were things that could have made it better. Overall, everyone was happy with the event as far as the length and flow of awards, it was one of the favorite banquets so far. The main feedback was that the clover clickers probably should not have been handed out until the end as some found them pretty annoying, everyone liked the location and having the food in a separate room, and the door prizes being passed out in a big batch at the end wasn't preferred.

Emma Smith did her visual arts demo. She provided magazines, canvases, and Modge Podge for everyone, and club members cut out relevant pictures and glued them on the canvases to make vision boards. There are multiple categories these will fit in for the fair. Savannah Pierce completed her gardening demo and taught the club about the characteristics of all of the common herbs and how to dry them for storage and future use. Club members were provided with a take home packet for reference about each herb as well as a live sage plant that they can take home and try to grow to dry for the fair.