**4-H Blast**

**December 9, 2016**

**The County Extension Office wants to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! See you all in January!!!**

**(This will be the last post before the holidays!)**

**No Dates coming in the next couple of weeks but there are plenty of opportunities! See below!**

***4-H Blasts:*** [***http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-blasts/***](http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-blasts/)

***MCJLS/MAJOR SHOW 4-H LIVESTOCK DATES:***

Mkt. Bunnies will be tattooed ------------------------ February 20, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (subject to change).

Mkt. Broilers ------------------------------------------ Order from Teacher/Agent by December 8.

Mkt. Turkey ------------------------------------------- Order from Teacher/Agent. See Rule F1.

Major Shows Swine Validation- November 29th, 4-6pm, YEB

***CLUB NEWS:***

No news to report…

***Milam County Junior Livestock Show 4-H Club Meeting Requirement:***

* You much enroll on 4-H Connect for the current year starting September 1st
* You can ONLY attend your primary club to count for the TWO meetings
* Attend TWO meetings from **August 1, 2016-March 1, 2017**
* Make sure you SIGN the sign in/attendance sheet when you first arrive at the meeting

***State 4-H Opportunities:*** Here are a few opportunities going on in the State 4-H Program! For more opportunities and information, see the website: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/state-4-h-opportunities/>

***4-H Day at the Capitol:*** The Texas 4-H Youth Development Program will once again host 4-H Day at the Capitol on **Wednesday, February 8, 2017.** This event is designed as a citizenship experience for 4-H members of all ages to learn more about the state legislative process, as well as meet their state representative and senator through an office visit.

Because this event is held during the legislative session and other organizations/groups are at the capitol on the same day, the number of participants (youth and adults) must be limited. The event will open for registrations on January 9, 2017 at 12 noon and will remain open until January 27, 2017 or until the event is filled. (In 2015, the event did fill up within the first 24 hours of being open). 4-H Day at the Capitol is open to the first 250 youth and 50 adults registering for the event.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

CALL THE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE **BEFORE JANUARY 9th**!!!

Cost per participant: FREE FOR MILAM COUNTY 4-H Members (3rd-12th grade)/Adults (includes lunch and t-shirt)- (If you do cancel, you do have to pay back the County 4-H Program-$30)

EVENT DETAILS

Date: ***Wednesday, February 8, 2017*** (Estimated Start Time: 8:30 am and Estimated Finish Time: 4:00 pm)

Event limited to the first 250 youth/50 adult (registration is non-refundable or transferable!)

For more information, please contact our office and we will email you the information.

**TEEN RETREAT:** The Texas 4-H Center is hosting Teen Retreat January 6th-8th . This weekend long program is for youth in grades 8-12 to learn about specific activities inside 4-H. County Agents, 4-H Specialists and the 4-H Center summer staff will be leading the programs. This year’s educational sessions include Vet Science, Gardening, Leadership, and Healthy Lifestyles. As always, we will have a 4-H dance on Saturday night. Cost is $120 for youth or $90 for adults. Any adults attending must enroll as a volunteer in 4-H Connect, complete the online child protection training in 4-H Connect, and submit a background check, also via 4-H Connect. Please share this information with you 4-H families. We are looking forward to a great program.

**2017 Beekeeping Essay Contest information:** This year’s essay will be submitted online through Texas 4-H Connect.2017 Essay Topic: “How can MP3 (Managed Pollinator Protection Plan) more effectively protect honey bees from pesticide exposure?” Deadline for submission will be Friday, January 27, 2017. AWARDS: Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three winners from Texas 4-H: 1st Place: $300.00, 2nd Place: $200.00, 3rd Place: $100.00

**Casting Call for Food Network Kids BBQ Championship Food Network’s exciting culinary reality show:** We are currently casting for kid cooks. We are looking for the most talented young grill masters around the country who have what it takes to compete for the chance to win a grand prize. We are in search of young cooking masterminds who can handle the heat and smoke the competition. For more information and how to apply, please visit our website at www.JSCasting.com. If you have any questions or require further information, please email us at BBQKidsCasting@gmail.com or feel free to contact Courtney directly (courtney@jscasting.com or 212-359-9384).

***Milam County 4-H Information!***

For information about any 4-H related activity, please go to the website or facebook page! [www.Join4-h.com](http://www.Join4-h.com) or [www.facebook.com/milamcountyfourH](http://www.facebook.com/milamcountyfourH)

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating