**4-H Blast**

**March 14, 2017**

* **March 15:** 4-H Service Day, 9:30am, Temple Ronald McDonald House (BRING ITEMS WITH YOU OR BEFORE)
* **March 26:** Shooting Sports Club Meeting, see below for information
* **March 27:** County Photo Entries due for District and State Photo Contest
* **March 30-April 1**: MCJLS

CONGRATULATIONS to all the winners at the Major Shows!!! Keep up the great work and represent Milam County 4-H well! Good luck to all of those participating!

***MCJLS NEWS:***

* MCJLS: **March 30-April 1, 2017**
* Website for rules: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-projects/milam-county-junior-livestock-show/>
* **ATTENTION: YOU MUST complete an eligibility form BEFORE YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN MCJLS! Must be done 1 week before!** [**http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-enrollmentguidelines/eligibility-form/**](http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-enrollmentguidelines/eligibility-form/) **Please follow the instructions on the website when completing this form.**

***CLUB NEWS:***

Shooting Sports News:

* We are now shooting Postal League.  It isn't too late to compete in this state competition.
* Registration for March Madness is now open on iClays
* Shooting sports meeting dates (See below)

Shooting Sports Dates:

Meeting Dates (\* denotes shoot-only days – no business meeting)

• March 26, 2017

• April 9, 2017

• April 23, 2017

• May 14, 2017

***Milam County 4-H Community Service Day:*** We will be meeting at the Temple Ronald McDonald House on **Wednesday, March 15th at 9:30am**. We will be delivering coke tabs and wish list items. Anyone wishing to donate please see items below for donations. Items can be delivered any time before the 14th of March. Coke Tabs may also be donated. Thanks!

Community support over the last 26 years has helped this House serve over 9,000 families from all over the world. Donations, large and small, have helped the House feel like a home for people living through tremendously stressful times in their lives. Whether it’s a batch of homemade cookies, a home-cooked or purchased meal, handmade blankets, videotapes or DVD’s, or packaged snacks, each gift warms a heart.

So many times people ask how they can help the House and the families who are here. Here are a few suggestions:

\* = Items in crucial need

Groups to Prepare Dinner\*\*Queen sized sheets (cream or neutral)

Individual boxes of cereal\*

Fresh Fruit – Bananas

Clock Radios

AA & AAA Batteries

Paper Towels

Individual bags of chips, snacks, pudding, crackers\*

Plastic Spoons

New Pillows

Gift Cards

(Wal-Mart, Kohl’s, Target, HEB)Rolls of Stamps

\*Glad plug-in refills (vanilla)

Solid air fresheners (vanilla)

Used Ink Cartridges to Recycle

Old Cell Phones to Recycle

Slice & Bake Cookies\*

Copy Paper

Pull Tabs to Recycle

Keurig K-Cups (any flavor)\*

***4-H Photography Contest:*** The County Photo Contest for district and state will be held in March. Please see the website for all the information. Entries are due **March 27,2017**. <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/projects/photography-contests/>

***County and District Roundup:*** County Roundup/Workshop will be **April 10th at 6pm at the Extension Office** and make sure you mark your calendar for **May 6th** for the District Roundup in Riesel! These are really fun contests for many to participate in. Here is the link to our website with more information. It is a great way to take your 4-H and School presentations/band performances and put them to use. Great public speaking skills too! <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/projects/roundup-contest/> You can integrate your band, dance, or a presentation into the Roundup Contests so you may have already done something, come and see how it all fits in on April 10th!

***Recordbook Training Scheduled:*** We will be holding an online recordbook training for **April 3rd at 6pm**. All families are welcome to attend in the comfort of their own home and listen on their phone or computer. <https://agrilife-tamu.webex.com/agrilife-tamu/j.php?MTID=mc194a662b3519a8060083f9dab29d31f> Meeting password: 4hrecordbooks

***Rockdale Fair Upcoming Important Dates:***

Ownership and Tag-in dates are as follows:

Commercial Heifers: **April 5, 2017**, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Tag-in at Milam County Auction Barn, Cameron

Steers: **May 18, 2017**, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Tag-in at Milam County Auction Barn, Cameron

For more dates and times, please see the rules on our website: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/rockdale-fair/>

***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 Coloring, Photography, and Art Contest:***

ATTENTION: Open to Clover Kids and all 4-H members- The Texas 4-H Youth Development Program is partnering with the Texas A&M Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory to help celebrate their 50th Anniversary of ensuring the safety of our state. To do this the TVMDL is sponsoring a coloring contest for Texas 4-H Clover Kids and an art and photography contest for 4-H members. The contest will run from **January 1, 2017 to April 1, 2017** and all entries are to be turned into the Extension Office and we will scan them and enter them on 4-H Connect. This does means that all Clover Kids and 4-H members will need to have an active profile in 4-H CONNECT to enter. To enter the contest and for more information, please go to: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/state-4-h-opportunities/>.

***NEW: National 4-H Congress:*** National 4-H Congress is held annually in Atlanta, Georgia over the Thanksgiving holidays. The program combines a variety of fun and exciting educational, recreational and networking opportunities. The program combines sessions, seminars, discussion groups, and a service learning experience. The nation’s most outstanding community leaders, speakers, and educators present the most current and timely information available.

Eligibility:

• Youth in grades 9-12 at time of event, November 23-28, 2017.

• Youth must still be in high school during the time of the trip.

• Must have approval of county Extension Office

IMPORTANT DATES:

Online Application Opens: **March 1, 2017**

Online Application Closes: **April 16, 2017**

Interviews Announced: April 28, 2017

Interviews during Roundup: TBD

Delegation Announced: June 8, 2017

Deposit (1st Payment) due ($750.00): June 30, 2017

Final (2nd Payment) due (balance of $1,000-1,500\*): July 31, 2017 (donor/sponsor search underway; final registration amount to be announced by May 1, but will not exceed $1,500)

***Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge:*** This year’s contest will be held **June 16-18, 2017** at the Seguin Outdoor Learning Center. Registration will open on 4-H Connect **May 1 and close on May 29**. No late team registrations. Please call the office for more information.

***Texas 4-H Horse Show:*** If you would like to compete in the Horse Show, please email or call our office for the information!

***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