**4-H Blast**

January 26, 2018

* January 30th: Consumer County Contest (mandatory for all members who are competing in SALE and District) – Practice, 6pm, Bea’s Kitchen
* Tuesday, February 6th: Thorndale MCJLS Sign Up Night
* Wednesday, February 7th: Rockdale MCJLS Sign Up Night
* Monday, February 12th: Cameron MCJLS Sign Up Night
* February 12: Mkt. Bunnies will be tattooed, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

***Good luck to those competing at Major Shows!!! Represent Milam County 4-H!!!***

***Ag Product ID Practice:***

Ag Product ID is a great life skills contest that teaches you how to learn about various foods in Texas and where they come from including fruits, vegetables, cuts of meat, etc. Come see what it is all about!

Practices has begun! Please contact the coaches to learn more about the project and to get the practices downloaded to your child's device so that they can study when they have a free moment.

We are preparing for the following contest:

Houston AG ID Contest on Wednesday, March 14th

District 8 AG ID Contest on Friday, April 20th

State 4-H Round-Up will have a contest the week of June 11th-14th

Please contact me (Cindy-512-917-4768) or Jocelyn Ramthun (Jocelyn-254-493-8615) if you have any questions.

***Shooting Sports Meetings:***

Our first meeting will be ***January 14*** at the New Salem Building at the Rockdale Fair Grounds at 2pm. The format will stay the same with the first meeting being a meeting with shooting after and the second meeting being shooting.

* January 14 and 28
* February 11 and 25
* March 4 and 18
* April 8 and 22
* May 13 and 20
* June 10 and 24

***Milam County Junior Livestock Show:***

Milam County Junior Livestock Show! March 23-24, 2018 SAVE THE DATE!!! For entry forms and rules please go to: <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-projects/milam-county-junior-livestock-show/>

MCJLS DATES TO REMEMBER:

* Mkt. Bunnies will be tattooed: February 12, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (subject to change).

Entry NIGHTS:

* Tuesday, February 6th: Thorndale
* Wednesday, February 7th: Rockdale
* Monday, February 12th: Cameron
* All entries must be received by secretary no later than February 12, 2018. After February 20, late entries will be accepted until March 22th for an ADDITIONAL $100.00 per entry.

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, 2017-March 1, 2018
* Make sure you SIGN the sign in/attendance sheet when you first arrive at the meeting

***Consumer Practices and Contests:***

Practice and Contest dates.

* January 30th (County Contest-mandatory for all members who are competing in SALE and District) – Practice, 6pm, Bea’s Kitchen
* February 16th: San Antonio- Target- Practice before SALE
* February 17th: SALE Consumer Contest
* February 27th- Practice, 6pm, Bea’s Kitchen
* March 3rd: District Consumer Contest

***Milam County 4-H Raffle:***

NOW THROUGH MARCH 1st!!!

How to Get Give-A-Way Tickets:

4-H Give-a-Way Tickets are now available from club managers (or fund raising leaders).

When is the Give-A-Way Drawing?

The drawing will be held at the Milam County Junior Livestock Show- March 24, 2018. The club that sells the most tickets will have their representatives named Mr. & Miss 4-H and the club that sells the second highest amount of tickets will have their representatives named Prince and Princess. Those results will not be announced till the 4-H Awards in September 2018.

Where to sell?

Sell tickets to friends and family. Please do not sell door to door for safety reasons. We need all 4-H families to sell as many as possible to continue providing support to 4-H.

How do you benefit from selling?

The Milam County 4-H Give-A-Way will award the top 3 families who sell tickets with a gift card! Also each 4-H member who participates in 4-H at the County level benefits from these funds!

Don’t forget to get your tickets and sell!

***Hackamore Plant ID Contest:*** SAVE THE DATE! The Hackamore Plant ID Contest will be held in Thorndale on April 14th. More information to follow later!

***Texas 4-H Community Service Project:***

The 2017-2018 Texas 4-H Council is encouraging local 4-H clubs to collect new or gently used children and young adult books. The books should be donated back to your local community, schools, libraries, hospitals, etc. We will be collecting the books at the Extension Office then donating them to the different libraries in the community!

Please send the Extension Office photos of your service project of collecting books. A presentation will be made during Texas 4-H Roundup announcing the impact made across the state. Collection will be taken from now till June 1st.

***Wildlife Conservation Camp:*** Applications are now open for the Wildlife Conservation Camp sponsored by the Texas Chapter of the Wildlife Society. Applications can be completed by visiting http://www.wildlifecamptx.org/. Complete camp details can also be found on that webpage. Applications must be submitted by May 1, 2018. Space is limited so encourage your 4-H members to explore and apply soon for this hands on, broad experience surveying and learning about the habitats of Texas, the wildlife we live with, and the management techniques and careers encompassing our wildlife. For more information, contact the Extension Office.

***Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge:*** 2018 Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge will be held on June 22-24 at the Seguin Outdoor Learning Center. This and the Outdoor Challenge Rules and Resource Guide can be found in the “Contest” section of this page: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/outdoor-education-living-skills/>

The 10 events for 2018 are:

• Shotgun

• Off-road Biking

• Archery

• Fishing

• Climbing

• Kayaking

• Rifle

• Biologist Skills

• Gear Judging

• Outdoor Safety

There are a few changes to this year’s rules, which have been highlighted in the Outdoor Challenge Rules and Resource Guide. Please advise your teams and coaches to review that document fully. Notably, there are changes to rifle and fishing.

New this year, we will be limiting registration to the first 50 teams (100 youth). This means that both members of the team must be registered on 4-H Connect to be considered in this count. Registration will open on May 1 and close on May 30.

***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 or 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