**4-H Blast**

April 7, 2021

[www.join4h.com](http://www.join4h.com)

4-H Happenings Coming Up:

* **April 7:** Consumer Practice Meeting, 5:30pm, Zoom
* **April 10, 17, 24:** Virtual Bass Fishing
* **April 12:** District Roundup Entries, 4-H Google Form
* **April 12:** Cloverbuds Project Meeting, 5:30pm, Zoom
* **April 12:** District May Jr/Int Food Challenge Contest Entry Deadline
* **April 12:** Mock Interviews, Texas 4-H Scholarship interviewees
* **April 16:** Ag Product ID, Leon County
* **April 18:** Shooting Sports Project Meeting
* **April 19:** District Consumer Contest, Cleburne
* **April 20:** Market Steer Tags and Validation Deadline
* **April 20:** Sheep and Goat Validation Deadline
* **April 21:** Ag in the Classroom
* **April 22:** County Council Meeting, 5:30pm, YEB
* **April 23:** District Roundup Eligibility Forms Due
* **April 24:** District Livestock Judging Contest
* **April 24:** Texas 4-H Scholarship Interviews (GOOD LUCK!)
* **May 1:** Healthy Texas Youth Ambassadors Applications due, online
* **May 2:** Shooting Sports Project Meeting
* **May 15:** Water Ambassador Application Due
* **May 16:** Shooting Sports Project Meeting
* **May 17:** District 8 Surge, Camp Buckner
* **May 19:** District Food Challenge for Jr/Int Team

***ENROLLMENT*** [www.join4h.com](http://www.join4h.com) Tell your friends to sign up!!! To re-enroll or join 4-H, please see our website: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-enrollmentguidelines/> This link will show you the steps to join as well as many important items for the 4-H year! Join us for 4-H fun!

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ENROLLMENT BEFORE YOU SUBMIT IT! If you are awaiting review, you are good! If it says resubmit or incomplete, you will need to finish before you can be approved!

***Eligibility Form:***

Please make sure that you are completing your eligibility forms before you go to the show. You will NOT be able to show unless you have enrolled online AND have a completed eligibility form. You must have them signed yourself and sent to the school and the school will send us your signed form if eligible. Please contact the office for a NEW form. 254-605-0226 and they can email you one.

***4-H Facebook:*** Do not forget we have a 4-H Facebook page!!!! We post 4-H Blasts, 4-H contest results and neat opportunities to do in 4-H! Make sure that you “see us first” in your settings. Step 1: Like the Page, Step 2: Click on 3 dots by search and like and then click Follow Settings, Step 3: set as favortie, Step 4: Click on Posts and choose STANDARD, Then you will see all 4-H posts when they arrive!

***Club/Project News:***

* **Milano 4-H Club:** Milano 4-H Club is ready for meetings! Please connect with their club by joining their Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1677500032472214> You need to enroll online to receive the zoom link!
* **Cameron 4-H Club Facebook Page:** Cameron 4-H Club has a new facebook page. Please like the new page for club news and information: <https://www.facebook.com/camerontx4hclub> Their fundraiser is ramping up! Please see Samantha Leifeste or Wendy Mahan for more information. Tickets are needing to be picked up to sell for the baked potato fundraiser to be held May 16th at Circle S BBQ. You can also sign up for desserts and to help with the fundraiser. We need a lot of help!
* **Thorndale 4-H Club:** Fundraiser is also ramping up. They are having a raffle for some great items. Please see Kristi Hobbs to sell tickets.
* **Shooting Sports Club:** Anyone interested in shooting sports. The following dates are meetings for Shooting Sports: 4/18, 5/2, and 5/16. The meetings will be located at the Rockdale at the New Salem Bldg. Please pass the info on if you know someone interested. COVID protocols will be followed.

***ATTENTION:*** All 4-H members and families MUST sign a COVID 19 Screening form when you attend a 4-H event/club meeting. You can grab these at: <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/files/2020/08/Screening-Letter-COVID-19-Youth-Overnight-events-6.12.20.pdf> or complete them ONLINE. Remember ALL adults and youth MUST complete a form if they are attending the meeting. <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=CljXn3JknE2hQtEx06ehFjaDcnkTVElDqZP2GyoRUPlUN1NYQVI1WjVWTUFVVjQ2V0Y0UkVISFhBRi4u>

They will have a few at the meeting if you forget it. Please wear your mask and practice social distancing at the 4-H club meetings. If you are attending an online meeting, the screening forms are not needed.

***4-H Consumer Project Meetings:***

All meetings will be: 5-6pm Lesson: All; 6-8pm Reasons: Intermediates/Seniors unless otherwise noted.

* April 7- Zoom
* April 15- TBA
* April 19- District Contest
* May- Central TX Consumer Contest

***Cloverbuds Project Group:*** Join us for our LAST Cloverbuds virtual project group meeting on April 12th.

Cloverbuds are Kindergarteners, 1st graders, and 2nd graders

2nd Monday, 5:30pm-6:30pm, ZOOM

Next Meeting: **April 12** Topic: Environment/Nature

You MUST SIGN up on 4-H Online to be on the Zoom!

For more information on Cloverbuds, please see the website: <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-clover-kids-k-2nd-grade/>

This month’s activity:

Please come by the office to get your paper for this next week’s cloverbud activity! It’s super important and don’t wait till Monday to pick it up! You will be picking up magic paper! It looks like a plain looking, blue, piece of paper, but it’s magic!  Please keep your paper in the envelope and away from day light until you’re ready for the adventure.

During our last Cloverbud meeting, April 12, we’re talking about nature!

Your challenge, is to spend some time outdoors, collecting rocks, leaves, flowers, grass, weeds, feathers, anything you can find. When you’re ready, inside your home and away from windows, pull your magic paper from the envelope and arrange your items flat on the paper. If it’s a windy day, you can cover your items with plastic wrap to hold everything still. Carefully, take your paper outside into the sun. Watch what happens! Leave your paper in the sun for 2 minutes. That’s the power of the sun’s UV rays, also called ultraviolet rays.

Make sure you go back inside before you remove the items from your paper. Then to make it permanent, soak your paper in plain water for 1 minute and dry flat. Bring your finished picture to our virtual meeting.

***4-H Contest Opportunities:***

* District Consumer Contest:
	+ County Contest: **April 1st** (Must compete for District)
	+ Dist Contest: April 19
	+ Location: Cleburne
	+ How to enter: email mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
* District Roundup:
	+ - Please fill out google form by **Monday, April 12,** what category you are entering (Please use the categories below are what to enter): <https://forms.gle/JcJN9EJ9EsYBAHA69>
		- Eligibility Forms must be filled out by **Friday, April 23th.** <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-enrollmentguidelines/eligibility-form/>
		- District Roundup- See below for NEW DATES and CHANGES
	+ Below is the information for this year’s District Roundup. Big changes to note are below:
		- Educational Presentations-**April 26-27** starting at 4:30pm each day.(please see the rules for specific category date assignments)
		- Public Speaking-**April 29**, starting at 4:30pm
		- Share the Fun-Submission uploads to be completed **April 20-24th** (will send Google Link to agents and participants). Judging to take place April 26-29.
		- Quiz Bowls (FCH, Horse, Livestock)-**May 1st** (to be held in person)
* District 4-H Food Challenge- Jr and Intermediate Contest
	+ Contest: **May 19th**
	+ Deadline to register: **April 12th**
	+ County Contest if needed: ***April 26th***
	+ Location for Dist: Bell County Expo, Belton
	+ How to enter: email mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu
* Virtual Bass Fishing Skill-a-thon Contest
	+ Open to ALL 4-H members including Cloverbuds
	+ Contest Dates: April 10, 17, 24
	+ Deadline to Register: March 12 (can register later)
	+ Can be: Individual, Team, or Both
	+ Join here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1202432833284039/>
	+ Registration will open on 4-H Online at 8:00 a.m. on March 1, 2021. Go to 4-H Online at https://texas.4honline.com and select 2021 4-H Virtual Fishing - Bass from the event list and submit your entry fee(s).
		- Entry to 4-H Online is due by April 8, 2021 to participate in the April 10th tournament. Only those registered on 4-H Online by the deadline will be eligible to participate.
		- 4-H Online will reopen again on April 12th for registration for the April 17th tournament (you only need to register if you did not register for the first tournament) and close at 11:59 pm on April 16th.
		- 4-H Online will reopen again on April 19th for registration for the April 24th tournament (you only need to register if you did not register for the first or second tournament) and close at 11:59 pm on April 23rd.

***Market Steer Tags & Validation:***

Prices on steer tags for 2021-2022 major shows increased state wide this year by $5.00. bringing the total price per tag to $25.00.

We will be eliminating steer nose prints for the 2021-2022 steer validation season. This change is a positive step in the directions of enhanced accuracy and efficiency for steer validation. The exclusion of nose prints from the validation process will allow for more in-depth and exact information related to confirming steer identity by relying largely on DNA tests.

Tag order deadline is **Tuesday, April 20, 2021**. Orders will be taken by calling the Extension Office at 254-605-0226. (Ask to speak with Marcia)

Tags may be paid for with cash or by check made out to Milam County E.L.A.B. No physical validation of any species will take place until all tags are paid for in full.

Details on a date for physical validation will be released soon. If you have any questions at all please don’t hesitate to contact the Milam County Extension Office.

***Heifer Validation:***

No changes to Heifer Validation for the 2021-2022 season $15.00 per head.

Payment is due at the time of Physical Validation. No heifers will be validated without proof of original registration papers and all information on said papers must be correct.

Tags may be paid for with cash or by check made out to Milam County E.L.A.B. No physical validation of any species will take place until all tags are paid for in full.

Details on a date for physical validation will be released soon. If you have any questions at all please don’t hesitate to contact the Milam County Extension Office.

***Sheep & Goat Validation:***

Price will remain the same for State Fair sheep & goat tags. $20.00 per tag.

The Texas Lamb and Goat Validation of Texas is pleased to announce the introduction of the Roll-over Breeding Sheep and Breeding Goat program.

Who does this impact? Registered breeding sheep, registered breeding goats, wether/commercial dams, and wether/commercial does ONLY

Who does this NOT impact? Market lambs and market goats

What does this mean? Beginning June 1, 2021, registered breeding sheep, registered breeding goats, wether/commercial dams, and wether/commercial does will have 3 total years of eligibility UNLESS A CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP TAKES PLACE. This will be offered during major show validation as well. Put plainly- if you validate for State Fair during the June 2021 validation period, your validation will be eligible until June 2024, unless a change of ownership occurs during that time- then you must re-validate. If you validate during the October 2021 validation period for major shows, your validation will be eligible until October 2024, unless a change of ownership occurs during that time- then you must re-validate.

Tag order deadline is **Tuesday, April 20, 2021**. Orders will be taken by calling the Extension Office at 254-605-0226. (Ask to speak with Marcia)

Tags may be paid for with cash or by check made out to Milam County E.L.A.B. No physical validation of any species will take place until all tags are paid for in full.

Details on a date for physical validation will be released soon. If you have any questions at all please don’t hesitate to contact the Milam County Extension Office.

***District 8 Surge:***

When: June 21-24, 2021

Where: Camp Buckner, Burnet, TX (<https://www.buckner.org/camp-buckner/>)

Cost: $240/per person

Who: Students who have completed the 8th grade through seniors in high school.

Theme: Stoke the 4-H Flame (camping)

Deadline to Register: **Monday May 17th**

***Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador Program Taking Applications:***

The Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador program is seeking motivated, passionate, and hard-working teens to improve the lives of Texans!

This program is designed for high school age youth (grades 9-12) who have a passion for health and wellness.

**Who’s Eligible?**

Youth do not have to be current 4-H members but must join 4-H for the 2021-22 year.

Eligibility requirements include:

• Be in at least the 9th grade at beginning of the 2021-2022 school year.

• Submit online application by **May 1, 2021** (<https://agrilife.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3RisvLKymQZoPps> )

• Have an interest and passion to serve others in health education which includes nutrition, physical activity, passenger safety, and safe environments!

***Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Applications:***

Applications are now open for the 2021/2022 cohort of Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors. Now in its fourth year, the 4-H Water Ambassadors Program continues to grow in number and is gaining recognition and support from the Texas water industry. We are looking forward to another successful year as we recruit up to 30 new youth. A goal of the Program is to equip youth to assist county extension with water education events. **Applications due May 15th**. Apply here: <https://fs4.formsite.com/state4h/water/form_login.html> Learn more here: <https://files.constantcontact.com/34de592c001/41731188-ce2a-4523-8990-67d6a3a3eba8.pdf>

***Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge:***

The Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge will be held **June 20-21, 2021** in Brownwood, Texas, at the 4-H Center. Click on the link below for more information about cost, schedule, registration, and more. See you there! <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kQDZm4Zp6rJmgdKrNp6jpQ0H_ClFbTun/view>

***Texas 4-H Center Summer Camp:***

Are you ready for Texas 4-H Summer Camps?

Texas 4-H Summer Camp Registration

will open February 1, 2021!!

Registration is on our website, [www.texas4hcenter.tamu.edu](http://www.texas4hcenter.tamu.edu). Click the green register now button on the right hand side of the screen, then click on 2021 Summer Camps, and then select the camp(s) you and your campers will attend this year!

***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