**4-H Blast**

March 8, 2023

[www.join4-h.com](http://www.join4-h.com)

4-H Happenings Coming Up:

* **March 9:** Consumer Practice, 6:30pm, Extension Office Conference Room (Int/Sr Only)
* **March 13:** Ronald McDonald House Community Service Day, 11 am, Temple
* **March 13:** MCJLS Baked Goods Container Pick Up, 6-7pm, YEB
* **March 14:** HLSR Food Challenge Contest, Houston
* **March 15:** HLSR Ag Product ID Contest, Houston
* **March 18:** HLSR Livestock Judging Contest, Houston
* **March 18:** MCJLS Baked Goods Contest, YEB
* **March 20:** County Photography Entries Due, Online
* **March 21:** Dog Project Meeting, 5:30pm, Extension Office
* **March 22-25:** Milam County Junior Livestock Show (MCJLS), YEB
* **March 28:County Council Meeting/Recordbook Training, 6:00pm, Conference Room- NEW DATE/TIME!**
* **March 28:** Dog Project Meeting, 5:30pm, Extension Office
* **March 30:** Consumer Practice, 6:30pm, Extension Office Conference Room
* **March 30:** Texas 4-H Council At-Large Delegate Application Due, 4-H Online
* **April 3:** National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest Deadline
* **April 4:** Cloverbuds Meeting, 5:15pm, BME Cafeteria- Cameron
* **April 5:** All cattle, State Fair, and Heart O’ Texas Fair tag orders Due, Extension Office
* **April 6:** Consumer Practice, 6:30pm, Extension Office Conference Room
* **April 11:** Dog Project Meeting, 5:30pm, Extension Office
* **April 11:** Consumer Practice, 5:30pm, Extension Office Conference Room
* **April 12:** Ag in the Classroom, 8:00 am, YEB
* **April 14: Leon County Judging Contests (Livestock, Ag ID, Horse), Leon County Expo**
* **April 15: MJ Hanna Plant ID Contest**
* **April 15:Texas 4-H Livestock, Equine, and Poultry Ambassador Applications Due**
* **April 17: District Consumer Contest, Cleburne**
* **April 18:County Council Meeting/Council Officer Elections, 5:30pm, Extension Office Conference Room**
* **April 22:District Livestock/Meats Judging Contest**
* **April 25:**Dog Project Meeting, 5:30pm, Extension Office
* **April 25:**Scholarship Prep Night- Extension Office Demo Room
* **May 9:** Dog Project Meeting, 5:30pm, Extension Office
* **May 16:** Dog Project Meeting, 5:30pm, Extension Office
* **May 19: 4-H Surge Camp Deadline, 4-H Online**
* **May 19: District 4-H Council Officer Application Due**
* **May 30:** Dog Project Meeting, 5:30pm, Extension Office
* **June 16:** Steer and Heifer Validation and all SFT/HOT Project Validation, 7:30–10:00am, Leifeste Ranch
* **June 21-23: D8 Surge Camp (Teens), Camp Buckner**

***Eligibility Forms:***

***Remember to do your eligibility form before you go to shows!!!!***

**PLEASE FILL OUT FORM AND SUBMIT IT TO THE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE! WE WILL SUBMIT IT TO THE SCHOOLS THIS YEAR FOR ELIGIBILITY APPROVAL.**

**It can be scanned and emailed or dropped off to the Extension Office 2 weeks prior to contest/event. Email forms to:** [carolyn.hux@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:carolyn.hux@ag.tamu.edu)

**Link to form:** <https://milam.4h.agrilife.org/4-h-enrollmentguidelines/eligibility-form/>

***4-H Clubs:***

* **Cameron 4-H Club**
  + **Every 1st Tuesday of the Month, 6pm, BME Cafeteria.**
  + **Please like the new page for club news and information:** <https://www.facebook.com/camerontx4hclub>
* **Davilla 4-H Club**
  + **Every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7pm, Arnold Home, 205 CR 422a- 76577**
* **Gause 4-H Club**
  + **Every 1st Monday of the month, 6pm, Gause school library**
* **Thorndale 4-H Club**
  + **Every 4th Monday of the month, 6pm, Thorndale Chamber of Commerce**
* **Rockdale 4-H Club**
  + **Every 2nd Monday of the month, 6:30pm, Rockdale Fair Park- New Salem Bldg**
* **Shooting Sports 4-H Club**
  + **Every 3rd Monday of the month, 6:30pm, TBA- Text 254-482-1143 for more information**

***Milam County 4-H Shirts:***

**Shirts are here at the office for purchase! Come by and see what we have! They are $15 each.**

***4-H AG Product ID Project:* 4-H AG Product ID project is ready for the spring contests! Meetings will take place on Sundays at 4pm at the new Extension Office (806 N Crockett Ave Cameron) Conference room. If you are interested in the project, please email Micah Holcombe (**[mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu)**) to be added to the list to participate.**

**Spring Practices:**

* **March 12**
* **March 19**
* **April 2**

***4-H Horse Judging Practices*: Horse Judging Practice will be Tuesdays from 4:30 - 5:30 at CJH (Cameron Junior High Ag room). Practices will begin on January 10th. Anyone interested is welcome to attend!**

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

**Rules have been posted on the Milam County 4-H Website:** <https://milam.4h.agrilife.org/4-h-projects/milam-county-junior-livestock-show/>

**March 22-25, 2023**

**Baked Goods: Entries MUST be displayed in containers available through the Baked Food Committee. Containers may be picked up Monday, March 13, 6-7pm, at the YEB.**

**\*\*NEW\*\* Baked Goods Add-Ons Announcement: Note to Buyers-Please spread the word: All checks will be made payable to MCJLA and multi baked items can be purchased with one check! Also, new this year, Add-on money can be added to any item by completing an Add-On Money Sale Sheet which will be available at the Baked Goods Silent Auction Sale on Saturday March 18 at 1:30pm-2:30pm. Don’t forget to encourage family members, businesses, and other organizations to come and support the baked goods participants that Saturday, the 18th.**

***Rockdale Fair Rules Posted:***

**The Rockdale Fair have been posted to the 4-H Website and can be viewed here:** <https://milam.4h.agrilife.org/rockdale-fair/>

**Baked Goods and Ag Mechanics will be posted soon! Please READ ALL THE RULES for Important Dates and Deadlines!**

***4-H Consumer Project:* Below are the dates for the Spring project meetings. Consumer Decision Making project is teaching youth how to be a better shopper. We learn need vs want, how to find the best quality of an item, and how to give reasons on why you placed an item a certain way. It’s a fun project with many contests! All meetings will be held at the Bea’s Kitchen in the new Annex (806 N Crockett Avenue Cameron).**

**Below are the dates for practices:**

* **March 9, 6:30pm (Intermediates/Seniors ONLY)**
* **March 21, 5:30pm**
* **March 30, 6:30pm**
* **April 6, 6:30pm (Intermediates/Seniors ONLY)**
* **April 11, 5:30pm**

**Contests:**

* **April 17th - District CDM Contest- Cleburne**

***4-H Dog Project*: We are starting the 4-H Dog project in the fall! Here are the dates of the meetings! We will be holding meetings on Tuesdays at 5:30pm at the Milam County Annex. All meetings will be held at the Extension office (806 N Crockett Avenue). You can enter on the right side of the building and the door will be propped open. The main entrance will always be locked.**

**You will need to bring the following items:**

**• Dog**

**• Leash (preferably a leather one)**

**• Collar- prong or martingale (ask Cathy if you need more help)**

**• Treats- easy treats to go in pocket to reward dog for good behavior**

**Dates for Practices:**

* **March 21**
* **March 28**
* **April 11**
* **April 25**
* **May 9**
* **May 16**
* **May 30**

***County Council Meetings:* 4-H County Council meets during the year to discuss and plans 4-H events happening and votes on financial matters. They also provide trainings for 4-H members and families! Please see the dates below and mark them in your calendar:**

**March 28, 5:30pm (Extension Office- Recordbook Training)- NEW DATE!!!!!**

**April 18th, 5:30pm (Extension Office- Elections 2022-2023)**

**All 4-H club presidents and council delegates (3 per club) and their club managers are asked to attend the meetings, but all 4-H families are invited to attend the meetings and trainings. Council delegates/presidents give club reports at the meetings.**

***4-H Cloverbuds Project Group:* 4-H Cloverbuds is a FUN 4-H program for children in kindergarten through second grade. Children participate in hands-on activities designed to build lots of different life skills! Explore a variety of projects in a fun way and do much, much more! REGISTER FOR FREE AT** [www.join4-h.com](http://www.join4-h.com)

**4-H Cloverbuds' Meetings:**

**1st Tuesdays, 5:15pm-5:45pm, (before Cameron 4-H Club Meetings- however Cloverbuds is open to ALL youth in Milam County).**

**February Meeting: Robotics/Science**

**Ben Milam Elementary Cafeteria (Cameron, TX)**

**Cloverbuds Meeting Dates:**

* **April 4**

**CHECK OUT THE CLOVERBUD WEBSITE:**

<https://milam.4h.agrilife.org/4-h-clover-kids-k-2nd-grade/>

***Ronald McDonald Project:***

**We will be meeting in Temple at the Ronald McDonald House at 11am on Monday, March 13 to drop off Wish List items and coke tabs!**

**Please start collecting those items for your 4-H Clubs and anyone that would like to donate. Items can be dropped off the week before at the Extension Office or collected at the club meetings and brought by a 4-H member going. All 4-H members are invited to come and drop off items.**

**WISH LIST:**

**Coke Tabs**

**Food Items:**

**Individual packages of chips; snacks, pudding, crackers, cookies, fruit**

**Canned & cup soups: Progresso, Campbells Chunky, Chili, Beef Stew**

**Granola Bars**

**Breakfast Bars**

**Cleaning Supplies**

**Liquid laundry detergent & fabric softener**

**Pine Sol / Fabuloso**

**White Vinegar**

**Clorox Wipes**

**Lysol Spray**

**Bleach**

**Dryer Sheets**

**Brooms / Dustpans / Swiffer Sweepers**

**Kitchen Items:**

**Disposable microwavable bowls & plats for soups and cereals**

**Plastic disposable utensils**

**Garbage bags: 13, 33 & 50 Gallons**

**Napkins & Kleenex**

**Good food storage containers: microwaveable, disposable, small & large sizes**

**New kitchen serving utensils, knives, pots & pans / bakeware**

**Miscellaneous:**

**Batteries (AA, AAA,)**

**Gift cards: Walmart, Restaurants, Sam’s Club, HEB**

**New white sheet sets—Queen size**

**Glade Plug-Ins**

**Copy paper (letter size)**

**New household appliances: Bagless vacuums, tools, carts, loading dollies**

**HP Brand Ink Cartridges: Type 910, 932XL, 933, 950,951, 962**

**“Forever” postage stamps**

***Texas 4-H Photography Rules and Guidelines Released:***

**Deadline is March 20th (County)**

**County Link to Register:** <https://forms.gle/rpt7ELPiFyDyF7pr9>

**Link to RULES/CATEGORIES:** [https://agrilife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/photography-contest/](https://agrilife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/photography-contest/?fbclid=IwAR2dSxPoght2Nn4oTRqgi5umul7mW0SCWXr0_pyo4BKbSGchQI4e_0Na_4I)

**Get started on your pictures now!**

**The new theme for this year is “Reflections”. The description is outlined within the rules.**

**Remaining the same as in years past, counties may still only enter 1 photo per category, for a maximum of 15 total photos. Also, senior photos who qualify directly from county will advance to district AND to state for competition.**

**When the time comes, please work with your photographers to ensure they upload the very best photos possible. Too often, we receive thumbnail images, not the full-sized photo.**

***District Roundup:* May 6, 2023**

**All rules are attached and are also updated on the website:** <https://agrilife.org/d84h/events-and-activities/roundup/>

**More information to come….**

***2023-2024 Tag Orders/Validation:***

**All cattle, State Fair, and Heart O’ Texas Fair tag orders are due by Wednesday, April 5th: order by contacting Carolyn Hux at 254-697-7045 and pay with cash or check at the Milam County Extension Office**

**Steer and Heifer Validation is along with all SFT/HOT Project Validation is scheduled for Friday, June 16th from 7:30–10:00am at the Leifeste Ranch 1896 County Rd. 255 Loop. Cameron, TX 76520 or until completed.**

**For more information about tag orders/validations, please see the handout/worksheets for ALL VALIDATIONS/TAG ORDERS:** <https://docs.google.com/document/d/117OOOyVqTEIPos4pCbT8Jqkmr8G1dkwD/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=108619984068140158846&rtpof=true&sd=true>

***D8 4-H Surge:* What it is? SURGE is our Leadership Lab camp. This camp is designed for our Senior aged youth. 4-H members who have completed at least the 8th grade at the time of SURGE may participate. The registration fee covers 3 nights of lodging, all meals, program activities, insurance, curriculum, and T-shirts. The attire is school appropriate (casual). Each evening there is a dance and many kids want to dress up. However, there are kids who wear summer clothes and each night is a theme dance so costumes are permitted. This camp is hosted by the District 8 Council Officer team. We will also elect our new slate of officers at this camp.**

**Other Details:**

**When: June 21-23, 2023**

**Where: Camp Buckner, Burnet, TX**

**Registration Dates: May 1-19, 2023**

**Cost per student: $250**

**Cost per adult: $200**

**Service Project: We will again collect NEW socks and shoes for the families that Buckner International works with. These items will be left at the camp for the missionaries to take as needed. Items needed: kids socks, kids shoes, kids underwear (all sizes in all things)**

***District 4-H Council:* Applications Due May 19th** <https://agrilife.org/d84h/district-4-h-council/> **The District 8 4-H Youth Development Program provides District 8 4-H Council officers many opportunities to be ambassadors for the 4-H program, practice and share their leadership skills, and assist in making District 8 4-H events run smoothly. District 8 4-H Council members are held to a high standard of excellence which should be demonstrated by participation in the scheduled events and activities.**

**To be eligible to run for a District 8 4-H Council Office, 4-H members must meet the following requirements:**

**• Must have attended a prior District 4-H SURGE (Leadership Lab).**

**• Must attend 2023 District 8 4-H SURGE.**

**• Must have completed at least the 9th grade.**

**• Review the D8 4-H Council Standing Rules at** <http://agrilife.org/d84h/district-4-h-council>**.**

***2023-2024 Texas 4-H Council At-Large Delegate:* The 2023-2024 Texas 4-H Council At-Large Application information has now been posted at** <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/ambassadors/> **under Texas 4-H Council. Interested 4-H members will apply on 4HOnline by selecting the “2023-2024 Texas 4-H Council At-Large Application” event. Applications will be accepted for the Texas 4-H Council At-Large Delegate positions and narrowed to a pool of applicants (approximately 12 or so to complete the speech/impromptu question part of the process) by the selection committee. The At-Large Delegate Presentations will take place on Monday, June 5th as part of Texas 4-H Roundup. Elections will be held using an electronic method and results announced Thursday, June 8th at the general assembly.**

***2023 Statewide 4-H Virtual Fishing Skill-a-thon:* Registration opened on 4HOnline, February 1st with the spring tournament scheduled to start on March 20th. This is a fun, educational opportunity for 4-H youth and Clover Kids to get outside and fish with their families and friends as the fishing takes place wherever they are located in Texas! Short educational videos on fishing tips, equipment, fish ID, industry careers, and more are available on the Texas 4-H Natural Resources Facebook page and new YouTube page. Prize packages of gift cards, fishing gear, and more will be awarded as provided by our sponsors. Last year we awarded over $13,000 in prizes!** **Rules of Play and a marketing flyer are located on the Milam County 4-H facebook page!**

***National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest:* 4-H members do not have to have a bee project to participate in the essay contest. The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc. on February 15th announced their 2023 4-H Beekeeping Essay Topic. 2023 Essay Topic: The Importance of Beeswax: Although honey bees are much-beloved for honey, bees also produce beeswax that can be used in many ways. For this essay, a 4-H student should discuss why beeswax is so important to the hive (it's a pantry, it's a nursery, it's the dance floor), but also discuss their favorite way to use beeswax outside the hive. Photos of candles, soaps, or lip balms that are made to show the 4-H'er's skill in using beeswax are welcomed as are recipes or brief instructions. It can be found at** <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/entomology/>**. You can see past winner’s essays by visiting the following website and clicking on 4-H Essays tab at the top of their page.** <http://preservationofhoneybees.org/> **Essays will be uploaded to 4HOnline using the “2023 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest” event. Deadline to submit is Monday, April 3, 2023. Winners will be announced the week of April 24th.**

***Poultry Camp:***

**See Milam County 4-H Facebook for more information.**

**Poultry Judging Camp Ages 9-13**

* **Camp Date:**
  + June 14th-15th

**Poultry Judging Camp Ages 14-18**

* **Camp Date:**
  + June 15th-17th

**Ag Teacher and Coaches Poultry Judging Camp**

* **Camp Date:**
  + June 29th-30th

*For more information please contact:*

Ally Spears, Program Coordinator [allyson.spears@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:allyson.spears@ag.tamu.edu)

***State Horse Validation:*** Texas 4-H Horse Validation for the 2023 season will be open in 4H Online from March 1 – May 1, 2023. ALL horses must be validated/re-validated each year. There is no limit to the number of horses that can be validated. You are encouraged to validate all horses that may possibly be shown at district and/or state shows. Only state validated horses can be substituted in the event that a validated horse becomes unusable due to lameness, sickness, etc. 4-H families can submit payment of $10.00 per horse ($20.00 after April 15th, or $250 from May 1st to May 5th), in the form of a credit card ONLY. If you are interested in validating and need information, please go to:  <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/4honline_family_guide_horse_validation_2023.pdf>

***Texas 4-H Livestock, Equine, Poultry Ambassador Applications:***

More details regarding the programs can be found at [www.texasyouthlivestock.com](http://www.texasyouthlivestock.com).

Due **April 15, 2023**

• Senior level (grades 9-12) 4-H youth that have exhibited a superior level of ambition regarding his/her livestock/equine/poultry projects

• Students with a profound interest in animal/equine/poultry science, animal production and advocacy

• Students have shown advanced leadership qualities and a willingness to help others

• Top 25% class rank

***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 favorite, Step 4: Click on Posts and choose STANDARD, Then you will see all 4-H posts when they arrive!

***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