**4-H Blast**

April 3, 2018

* **April 4:** Ag Product ID Practice, 4pm
* **April 7:** District Horse Judging
* **April 7:** Rockdale Fair Commercial Heifers, 8:00am-12pm, Milam County Auction Barn
* **April 9:** Healthy Lifestyles Practice
* **April 10:** Roundup Orientation Night, 6pm, County Extension Office
* **April 11:** Ag Product ID Practice, 4pm
* **April 11-22:** 4-H Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign

***Dates for Spring/Summer:***

These are a few dates to please put on your calendar!

* **April 14:** Hackamore Plant and Range ID Contest
* **April 16:** County Council Meeting/Officer Elections, 6pm, Bea’s Kitchen, Cameron (NEW TIME)
* **April 18:** Ag Product ID Practice, 4pm
* **April 17:** District Fashion Show
* **April 19:** Sheep, Goat, Steer Tag Orders Due (Early orders)
* **April 20:** Deadline for National 4-H Congress Applications
* **April 20:** Tag Order Payment Deadline
* **April 21:** District Livestock, Meat, Soil Judging Contest
* **April 23:** Healthy Lifestyles Practice
* **April 30:** Healthy Lifestyles Practice
* **May 5:** District 8 4-H Roundup
* **May 7:** Ag in the Classroom
* **May 7:** Healthy Lifestyles Practice
* **May 17:** Rockdale Fair Steer Tag-In, 7-9am, Rockdale Fair Park
* **May 21:** Healthy Lifestyles Practice
* **May 28:** Healthy Lifestyles Practice
* **June 4:** Healthy Lifestyles Practice
* **June 8:** Fun Day Camp
* **June 11-15:** Texas 4-H Roundup
* **July 7:** Lambs, Swine, and Goat Tag In, 7-9am, Rockdale Fair Park
* **July 13-15:** D8 County Camp
* **July 13-15:** Texas 4-H Dog Show
* **July 22-26:** Texas 4-H Congress

Many other contests and activities but here is a highlight!!! If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please call or email the Extension Office!

***Shooting Sports Meetings:***

Meetings will be 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.

* April 8 and 22
* May 13 and 20
* June 10 and 24

***District Roundup:***

Roundup is not a roundup of cows but rather a Roundup of all sorts of 4-H talent and speaking opportunities! There is public speaking, educational presentations, and Share the Fun Talent. If you are interested in any of these and want to participate in the 4-H Roundup on May 5th at District, please mark your calendar to attend the **April 10th**, Roundup Orientation Night at the Extension Office. We will go over each of the opportunities and then have a few kids give speeches to get the idea on how to do it. It will be fun and a great life skill to obtain!

***Healthy Lifestyles:*** Do you enjoy working with others and performing skits? Would you like to know how to live a healthier life and make better choices? Then healthy lifestyles is for you! We will begin meeting on Monday's to improve our knowledge in nutrition, food safety, physical activity, skin care, and teen driving safety. Each Monday we will tackle a new category.

For more information about this contest visit <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018-Healthy-Lifestyles-Invitational-Contest-Materials_1.13.17.pdf> and come practice with us!

* April 2 Gause School, 6pm (Decide times after this meeting)
* April 9 Cameron Extension Office
* April 23 Gause School
* April 30 Cameron Extension Office
* May 7 Gause School
* May 21 Cameron Extension Office
* May 28 Gause School
* June 4 Cameron Extension Office

***County Council Meeting/Officer Elections:*** We will have County Council Meeting and Officer Elections on Monday, April 16th at Bea’s Kitchen in Cameron. Please plan to come to the meeting and represent your 4-H club. We will be holding officer elections as well for the 2018-2019 year. Intent to Run forms are now available on the website. They are due before the meeting begins. We have a lot to discuss and officer elections are a lot for one meeting, so we have moved it to ***6pm on Monday, April 16th***. Intent to Run form: <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-clubs/milam-county-4-h-council-and-parentleaders/> See you there!

***State Fair Sheep & Goat Tag Order and 2018-2019 Steer Tag Order:*** It’s that time of year again! Tag Order Season. Starting tomorrow March 29, 2018. Milam County Extension Office will begin taking orders for State Fair of Texas Sheep & Goat Tags as well as Major Show Steer Tags for the 2018-2019 show season. Below are ordering instructions, pricing, and more.

State Fair of Texas Sheep & Goat Tags

* $20.00 per head ordered March 29 – April 19
* $25.00 per head ordered April 20 – June 23

2018-2019 State Validated Steer Tags

* $20.00 per head ordered March 29 – April 19
* $25.00 per head ordered April 20 – June 23

Please contact Milam County Extension Office at 254-697-7045 or email Floyd at floyd.ingram@ag.tamu.edu to place orders. Payment Deadline for all tag orders will be Friday, April 20, 2018 by 5:00pm.

Also a quick reminder. Physical state validation dates for Milam County have not been announced yet but will be around the same time as previous years during the middle of June. So mark your calendars, we will be getting that date out soon.

***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.

***State Water Ambassador:***

The Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program provides high school age youth an opportunity to gain advanced knowledge and practice leadership skills related to the science, technology, engineering, and management of water in Texas. Each year, up to (32) individuals are selected to join the Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program. Those selected will participate in a summer 4-H2O Youth Leadership Academy. Over the next (12) months, Ambassadors will provide a minimum of (40) hours of service. Deadline to apply is May 20th. Registration will open February 19, 2018 @ <https://fs4.formsite.com/state4h/water/index.html> If you are interested in this opportunity, please let the Extension Office know or follow this link above.

***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.

***National 4-H Congress:***

National 4-H Congress is the flagship event of the National 4-H program held annually at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. Texas 4-H members can apply starting April 1st and ending on April 20th. The applications will be on 4-H CONNECT and are required to have two reference letters, one of which should be from a County Extension Agent. There is no fee to apply. Selected applicants will be notified on April 30th. Face-to-face interviews will be held in College Station on Monday, June 11th.

Once the delegation is selected, the participation fee is $1,500 which cover:

• Congress registration (includes most meals)

• Roundtrip airfare

• Ground transportation in Atlanta

• Lodging at the Hyatt Regency

• Educational tours

• States lunch

• State photograph

• Trading pins

• Commemorative shirt.

Registration DOES NOT cover:

• Getting to and from selected airport

• Spending money for souvenirs

• Meals while traveling to and from Atlanta.

To attend, youth MUST be in grades 9 – 12 at the time of the event. For more details, please email: mlholcombe@ag.tamu.edu and Micah will send you the packet.

***Vet Camp:*** 4-H will have two Texas 4-H Veterinary Science Camps this summer. We are implementing an application process through Qualtrics for the camps this year. Please have interested Texas 4-H members complete to application that is due by 5:00 pm on April 19, 2018.

Open to Texas 4-H members 12—18 years old as of September 1, 2018

Texas A&M University: $175.00

West Texas A&M University: $175.00

Program Dates:

Texas A&M University: June 11-14, 2018

West Texas A&M University: July 23-25, 2018

Application is due by 5:00 pm on April 19, 2018

A selection committee will review the applications and accept 25 for each location

Applicants will be notified by May 1, 2018 regarding application results

\*Applicants will be notified if they are accepted/denied.

An application does not ensure entrance into the camp. The camp is limited to 25 participants at each site.

<https://agrilife.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9WTT3UMrOQCISSV>

***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