**4-H Blast**

February 1, 2019

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

* **February 3:** Deadline to sign up for Rodeo Austin Leadership Opportunities
* **February 4:** National 4-H Conference Application Deadline, 4-H Connect
* **February 6:** Consumer Practice, 5-6pm, Bea’s Kitchen
* **February 7:** Milam County Debate Sign Up Deadline
* **February 11:** MCJLS Sign Up Night, Rockdale General Store Mtg Rm
* **February 12:** MCJLS Sign Up Night, Thorndale Ag Science Bldg
* **February 23:** District Consumer Contest, Waco
* **February 25:** MCJLS Sign Up Night, Cameron YEB
* **February 25:** MCJLS Bunnies Tattooed, 4-6pm

***GOOD LUCK to all our 4-H members competing at Major Stock Shows!!!!!***

***4-H Facebook:*** Don’t 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 Following, Step 3: See First, Step 4: Turn Notifications ON! Then you will see all 4-H posts when they arrive!

***SENIORS:***  Please also visit the Milam County 4-H Website for other scholarships available: <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-activities/scholarships/>

***Ag Product ID:*** 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 is about to begin! 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. Please contact Cindy Widner (512-917-4768) or Jocelyn Ramthun (Jocelyn-254-493-8615) if you have any questions.

***County Council/Club Manager Meeting Dates:***

County Council will kick back in gear in January! The following are the dates for County Council:

**Monday, April 15th**, 5:30pm, Thorndale Chamber of Commerce (Teen Issues/Driving- Healthy Ambassadors give presentation)

**Monday, May 20th**, 5:30pm Cameron, Bea’s Kitchen (Officer Election)

**Tuesday, June 25th**, 5:30pm, Cameron, Bea’s Kitchen (Club Manager Training, Recordbook Judging)

Please mark your calendars to join us for these meetings!!!!

***MCJLS DATES TO REMEMBER:***

***MCJLS- March 28-30, 2019***

ATTENTION: The website is now updated with the schedule and the entry form!!! <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-projects/milam-county-junior-livestock-show/>

* Mkt. Bunnies will be tattooed: **February 25,** 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (subject to change).
* Mkt. Turkey: Order from Teacher/Agent. See Rule F1

Entry NIGHTS:

* Monday, **February 11th:** Rockdale General Store Meeting Room
* Tuesday, **February 12th**: Thorndale Ag Science Building
* Monday, **February 25th**: Cameron
* All entries must be received by secretary no later than February 25, 2019. After February 25, late entries will be accepted until March 28th for an ADDITIONAL $100.00 per entry.

**ELIGIBILTY:** **If you show at MCJLS or ANY MAJOR SHOW, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO DO AN ELIGIBILITY FORM!!!!** **Forms need to be at the Extension Office NO LATER than March 18th for MCJLS**! **PLEASE do your eligibility forms before SPRING BREAK!** <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-enrollmentguidelines/eligibility-form/>

How to fill out a form:

1. USE DARK INK!!!
2. Information Only or Absence from school: please check if you are missing school or not.
3. Activity: this is the show or contest you are competing in- such as: Ft. Worth Stock Show, District Roundup, District 4-H Consumer Contest, San Antonio Livestock Show, etc.
4. Date: This is the date of the contest and the days you will be out, NOT today’s date that you are filling it out
5. Signature of Parent/Guardian: This is the person who takes care of you not the parent or person taking you to the contest.
6. I hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (This is the 4-H member…fill in the name of the person who needs eligibility completed)
7. Date- Fill out the CURRENT date- that is today’s date that you are filling out the form.
8. Below- this is for the school not for you. Please do not fill it out!
9. This is one form per activity so make sure you fill out for each activity. NOTE: If the activity is on the same day and you are doing 2 activities within that contest then one is enough. Example: Showing Rabbits and Poultry at MCJLS.

***Upcoming Opportunities:***

***Rodeo Austin Opportunities:***

Youth are needed to sing the National Anthem and recite pledges at Rodeo Austin before the Junior Shows as well as the Longhorn and Open/Youth Boer Goat Shows. Below is the information that is also included on the SignUpGenius link.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EA9AE2AA57-rodeo>

National Anthem – Youth will need to submit a video as those spots will be assigned. Email videos to Cory at cory.hundl@ag.tamu.edu by **February 3rd.**

Listed below are opportunities for youth to volunteer to sing the national anthem and recite the American, Texas Pledges, the FFA motto and the 4-H Pledge at the shows for Rodeo Austin.

· Longhorn Show - Saturday, March 16th - Show starts at 9:00 am

· Market Lamb & Goat Show - Tuesday, March 19th - Show starts at 9:00 am

· Market Poultry Show - Wednesday, March 20th -Show starts at 11:00 am

· Open Boer Goat Show - Thursday, March 21st - Show starts at 9:00 am

· Barrow Show - Saturday, March 23rd - Show starts at 9:00 am

· Barrow Show - Sunday, March 24th - Show starts at 9:00 am

· Market Steer Show - Tuesday, March 26th - Show starts at 9:00 am

· Market Steer Show - Wednesday, March 27th - Show starts at 9:00 am

· Jr. Breeding Heifer Show - Friday, March 29th - Show starts at 9:00 am

· Jr. Breeding Heifer Show - Saturday, March 30th - Show starts at 9:00 am

For those interested in this leadership opportunity, please sign up using this online form. You will need to plan to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the species show in which you are volunteering. One parking and one gate pass will be provided for the youth who is volunteering (provided you do not already have any) and the passes will be mailed to the address provided. You WILL NEED to provide your address when signing up.

When you register, please select the option to use alternate name and in the "First Name" box , list the first and last name of the youth member. In the "last name" box, list the 4-H County or FFA Chapter in which the youth is a member.

If you would like to sing the national anthem, a video needs to be emailed to Cory by February 25th as those spots will be assigned.

If you have questions, please email Cory at [Cory.hundl@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Cory.hundl@ag.tamu.edu)

***National 4-H Conference:*** The application for National 4-H Conference is now open on 4HConnect. Conference is scheduled for **April 6-11, 2019** at the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland just outside of Washington DC. National 4-H Conference is a working conference in which youth and adults, at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture, assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development programs nationally and in local communities. There is no fee for a member to apply. However, a fee of $2,000 will be due for members selected to participate by **February 4, 2019**.

***Government/Debate Contest- Milam County:***

The competition will consist of juniors and senior students and each team of two persons who will compete against other two person team(s) from the County. All the teams will be given the same written civil case appellate case and each team will argue their respective side of the case before a panel that will include Judge Youngblood and County Judge Young among others. Milam County will furnish the written problem and help with student preparation. Milam County Judge Young will also help tutor the students and will have lawyers who will assist with this as well. If you are interested, please email Micah Holcombe, before **February 7th.** The tentative two-day competition is set for Thursday, April 11 and ending Friday, April 12, 2019 but is subject to change.

***International Livestock Congress:*** The International Stockmen’s Educational Foundation in partnership with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo would like to invite you to this year’s International Livestock Congress on **February 27-28, 2019**. This year’s program is entitled, “Change is Here!” Download the flyer on the Texas 4-H news. For more information and to register, please visit: <http://www.theisef.com/>

***County/District Photography Contest:*** If you are interested in participating in the County and District Photography Contest, please see the website for more information: <https://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/projects/photography-contests/> Deadline to enter on 4-H Connect is **March 18th**. Entry fee per photo is $5.

***2019 Salute to Excellence Awards:*** Deadline: **April 1, 2019**

The 2019 Volunteer Recognition Packet has been released and nominations are now being accepted for the Salute to Excellence recognition scheduled for Wednesday, June 12 during the 2019 Texas 4-H Roundup. You can download the recognition packet at <https://fs4.formsite.com/state4h/form226/form_login.html>

Nominations are now open to recognize volunteers, donors and AgriLife personnel for their continued commitment to the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program. The six recognition categories are:

• Leader Legacy

• Citation for Outstanding Service

• 4-H Alumni

• Commendable Service

• Meritorious Service

• Salute to Excellence

Descriptions of each category can be found in the recognition packet.

Please take a few minutes and nominate individuals or groups for their efforts. We all know the value of our volunteers and donors, don’t miss the opportunity to publicly recognize them.

Online nominations accepted: January 18, 2019 – April 1, 2019

Salute to Excellence luncheon: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 in College Station

***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 4th** at District, please mark your calendar to attend the **April 15th**, Roundup Orientation Night at the Thorndale Chamber Building at 6:30pm after the County Council Meeting. 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! Last day to enter the District Roundup is **April 17th**

***Upcoming Spring and Summer Dates:***

April 5: District Plant ID Contest

April 6: District Horse Judging Contest

April 15: County Council, 5:30pm, Thorndale Chamber

April 15: Roundup Orientation Night, 6:30pm, Thorndale Chamber

April 16: District Fashion Show

April 17: Deadline for District Roundup Entries

April 27: District Livestock Judging Contest

May 4: District Roundup

May 13: State Roundup Entries Due, 4-H Connect

May 20: County Council, 5:30pm, Bea’s Kitchen, Cameron

May 21: Ag in the Classroom, Cameron

May 24: District Officer Entries Due

June 10-14: Texas 4-H Roundup

June 17-18: District Horse Show

June 19-21: D8 Leadership Surge

June 24: Recordbooks Due

June 25: Club Manager Training, 5pm, Bea’s Kitchen- Cameron

June 28-30: D8 County Camp

***Other dates available soon!!!!***

***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