**4-H Blast**

January 15, 2020

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

* **January 15:** County Council Meeting, 5:30pm, Gause Library
* **January 22:** Consumer County Contest, 4pm-8pm, Bea’s Kitchen
* **January 25:** Ft Worth Plant ID Contest
* **January 26:** Shooting Sports Project Meeting, 2pm, New Salem Clubhouse-Rockdale
* **January 30:** Consumer Project Meeting, 5:30pm, Bea’s Kitchen
* **February 1:** Central Texas Consumer Contest

***ENROLLMENT!!!*** Please sign up then! [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!

***Eligibility Form:*** Please make sure that you are completing your eligibility forms before you go to the show or a contest. 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.

***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!

***Consumer Project Meetings:***

**Here is a list of all the consumer meeting dates.** ALL MEETINGS will be from 5:30-7pm other than County Contests.  ALL MEETINGS will be at Bea’s Kitchen.

* January 22- Wednesday (Consumer Contest I (4-8pm)-MANDATORY MEETING)
* January 30- Thursday
* February 1- Central Texas Consumer Contest
* February 5- Wednesday
* February 15- SALE Consumer Contest
* February 25- Tuesday
* March 4- Wednesday
* March 16- Monday
* April 14- Tuesday
* April 8- Wednesday

***4-H Shooting Sports:*** If you would like to participate in shooting sports, the next meeting will be **Sunday, January 26th at 2pm** at the New Salem Clubhouse in Rockdale (on the Rockdale Fairgrounds). They will be practicing air rifle and archery. Come and learn about this project!!!!

***County Council Meetings:***

County Council will be holding meetings for the spring! Don’t forget to put these dates on your calendar!

**January 15, 5:30pm**- Gause Library (Program: Public Speaking/Roundup)

**April 15, 5:30pm**- Thorndale Chamber (Program: Officer Elections)

Upcoming service activity: February Valentines Party- we will be holding a Valentine’s Party for residents at the Nursing Home. We plan to get a date at the January meeting.

***MCJLS DATES TO REMEMBER:***

***MCJLS- March 25-28, 2020***

* Mkt. Bunnies will be tattooed: **February 24,** 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (subject to change).
* Mkt. Turkey: Order from Teacher/Agent. See Rule F1

Entry NIGHTS:

* Monday, **February 10:** Rockdale General Store Meeting Room
* Tuesday, **February 11th**: Thorndale Ag Science Building
* Monday, **February 24th**: Cameron
* All entries must be received by secretary no later than February 24, 2020. After February 24, late entries will be accepted until March 26th for an ADDITIONAL $100.00 per entry.

***Community Service Project:*** We will be having a monthly collection of items for the Milam Touch of Love Animal Shelter. You can drop your items off at the Extension Office, Cameron 4-H Club Meeting. Items needed:

* Dog food (any kind)
* Cat Food (any kind)
* Collars
* Leashes
* Dog and Cat toys
* Blankets
* Hanging water bowls
* Clorox bleach
* Monetary donations for spaying and neutering

Milam County 4-H Service Project: Rainbow Rooms are 24/7 resource centers usually located within local Child Protective Services (CPS) offices. In the Rainbow Room, CPS caseworkers can get supplies for children who are victims of abuse or neglect- clothing, school supplies, diapers, and much more.

We are collecting supplies for the Rainbow Room Wish List. Here are the wish list top 6 items. New items are the only things excepted. Items can be also dropped off at the Extension Office.

* Carseats
* Pack ‘n’ Play Portable Play Yards
* Toys and Children’s Books
* Household cleaning supplies
* Diapers-all sizes
* New Children’s clothing

Thanks Colby Green for organizing this County Service Project.

***4-H Officer Spotlight:***

Hi my name is Gabriel Ramthun and I am a Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador and I would like to encourage 4-Hers from all over Milam County to consider two contests that are coming up this spring! Intermediates and senior 4-Hers can both participate. They can enter as an individual or as part of a team. Both contests are invitational at State 4-H Roundup, which means there is no qualifying contest to go to State 4-H Roundup. The first contest is the Healthy Lifestyles Invitational Contest. In this contest each participant works individually to place/rank eight classes, each of which consists of a scenario and four options related to a healthy lifestyle topic and a group presentation. Some of the topics covered include proper food safety, sun safety, sports drinks and hydration, E-cigarettes and vaping, ATV safety and exercise. You really learn things that help you make good choices as you go through school!

 The other contest is the Ag Product ID Contest. In this contest there is a district level which does have juniors participate. We also attend 2 other practice contests before Roundup. Contestants identify 20 Texas agricultural products at separate stations. Contestants select the correct identification of each product. Each station also has one multiple choice question pertaining to the product on display. Questions are general to the industry that produced the product, (i.e. Texas’ national ranking, economic impact to Texas, general nutrition content, region of production) and specific to the individual product that is on display (i.e. cooking method, use, growing season, specific nutrition of the cut or variety). Both contests are a lot of fun and a great way to meet your fellow Milam County 4-Hers. You also learn a lot about information that can keep you and your family healthy!

Practices for both groups will be posted in the 4-H Blast. Hope to see you there!

***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