**4-H Blast**

February 4, 2020

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

* **February 4:** Ag Product ID Practice, 5:30, Mrs Ramthun’s Room- Thorndale High School, Thorndale
* **February 5:** Consumer Practice, 5:30pm, Bea’s Kitchen- Cameron
* **February 7:** BCYF Ag Product ID and Livestock Judging Contest, Belton Expo
* **February 10:** MCJLS Entry Night, Rockdale General Store Meeting Room
* **February 11:** MCJLS Entry Night, Thorndale Ag Science Building
* **February 15:** SALE Consumer Contest, San Antonio
* **February 16:** Shooting Sports Practice, 2pm, New Salem Building- Rockdale
* **February 24:** MCJLS Entry Night, Youth Exposition Building (YEB)-Cameron
* **February 10:** Ag Product ID Practice--Cameron-4:30, County Extension Office
* **February 11:** Ag Product ID Practice-Thorndale-5:30, Mrs Ramthun’s Room- Thorndale High School, Thorndale
* **February 17:** Ag Product ID Practice-Cameron-4:30, County Extension Office
* **February 17:** County Council Service Day at Winnie L. Nursing Home-Cameron, 2pm
* **February 18:** Ag Product ID Practice-Thorndale-5:30, Mrs Ramthun’s Room- Thorndale High School, Thorndale

***GOOD LUCK to all of our 4-H members competing at Major Shows this month and next!***

***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.

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.

***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.

* 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:*** A list of the shooting sports meetings are below and will be held at the New Salem Clubhouse in Rockdale (on the Rockdale Fairgrounds) at 2pm. They will be practicing air rifle and archery. Come and learn about this project!!!!

* February 16
* March 1
* March 22
* April 5
* April 19

***County Council Meetings:***

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

**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. The date will be February 17th. More information to follow!

***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.

***Ag Product ID Practices:***

Below are the upcoming dates for practices and contests.  All Monday practices will be held at the Extension Office in Cameron and Tuesday practices will be held in Mrs. Ramthun's Classroom at Thorndale High School. We are planning to visit Brookshire Brothers and the Thorndale Meat Market for some hands-on learning.  If you have not already done so, please let Cindy Widner know what contest you are planning to attend. Entries are due very soon.

**AG ID Schedule**

Tuesday, February 4th-Practice-Thorndale-5:30

**Friday, February 7th-Bell County Contest**

Monday, February 10th-Practice--Cameron-4:30

Tuesday, February 11th-Practice-Thorndale-5:30

Monday, February 17th-Practice-Cameron-4:30

Tuesday, February 18th-Practice-Thorndale-5:30

Monday, March 2nd-Practice-Cameron-4:30

Tuesday, March 3rd-Practice-Thorndale-5:30

Tuesday, March 17th-Trip to Thorndale Meat Market-5:00

**Friday, March 19th-Houston AG Product ID Contest**

Monday, March 30th-Practice-Cameron-4:30

Tuesday, March 31st-Practice-Thorndale-5:30

**Friday, April 3rd-District 8 AG Product Contest-Tarleton**

***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 6th. Entry fee per photo is $5.

***Entomology:*** Are you interested in collecting bug? We have the project for you! This is a SELF-GUIDED project and we have information on the contest. For more information, you can visit <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/entomology/> \*NEW\* this year, the contest is separate from Texas 4-H Roundup Registration. Registration will be through 4-H CONNECT on May 1 – May 22, 2020. Cost is $10. Collections will need to be physically brought to College Station on Tuesday, June 9th and turned in at the HEEP Center, Room 411 by 10 am. Awards will be announced during the Entomology Identification Awards ceremony the afternoon of Wednesday, June 10th. 4-H members do not need to be present but must make arrangements to have their collections delivered/picked up for the contest. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 4 entries per age division.

The contest is open to Junior, Intermediates and Seniors. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 4 entries per age division. Additional awards may be provided if sponsorship is available.

***County Council 4-H Service Project Day:*** Join us as Milam County 4-H gives back to the senior citizens in our community. On **February 17th at 2pm**, we will be going to the Winnie L. Nursing Center in Cameron to wish them a Happy Valentine’s Day as well as bring them some treats! If you cannot make it on the 17th, items can be dropped before noon on February 17th.

Some items to bring:

* Valentine’s day treats (cookies, brownies, etc)
* Scented Toiletries (bath soaps and deodorants)

***Milam Touch of Love 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

***Rainbow Room 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.

***State 4-H Volunteer Awards:*** The 2020 4-H Volunteer Recognition Packet is available on the websites below. Nominations are now being accepted now through **Monday, March 16, 2020** for the Salute to Excellence recognition luncheon scheduled for Wednesday, June 10 during the 2020 Texas 4-H Roundup.

Nominations are now open online through Formsite to **recognize volunteers, donors and AgriLife Extension staff/personnel** for their continued commitment to the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program. These can be supporters (individuals, couples, businesses, organizations) who assist at the county, district, regional, or state level. The six recognition categories are:

• Leader Legacy

• Citation for Outstanding Service

• 4-H Alumni

• Commendable Service

• Meritorious Service

• Salute to Excellence

ONLINE FORMSITE SUBMISSION LINK: <https://fs4.formsite.com/state4h/form226/form_login.html>

Texas 4-H website Awards & Recognition page: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/awards/>

(Volunteer Recognition Packet and previous winners will be posted on the website soon.)

***State 4-H Shirts for SALE:*** The TAE4-HA Gives two, $3,000 scholarships at Texas 4-H Roundup. We have launched a t-shirt fundraiser. <https://www.facebook.com/tae4ha/photos/a.403038759906157/1244942415715783/?type=3&theater>

***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