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October 2011 Edition

4-H Council Meeting

The next 4-H Council meeting will be on **Oct. 18th** at 6:30 at the office. If you are a president or council delegate from your club, please plan to attend.

County 4-H Food Show

The County Food Show is **October 22nd** at the First United Methodist Church in Levelland. Judging begins at 2:30. Entries must be submitted to Amber by 5:00 p.m. on **October 21st**. Please e-mail them to me at arparkinson@ag.tamu.edu Also call and sign up in the office if you haven't already with the category you will enter. If you have a conflict on this date please call me and we will do our best to work everybody in.

Divisions- All ages are as of August 31, 2011

Clover Kids- 2nd grade and under

Jr.- 9-10

Int.- 11-13

Sr.- 14 - 18

Categories in Bread and Cereal, Fruit and Vegetable, Main Dish, Nutritious Snacks

- Everyone is encouraged to bring something small to put in the judges gift bags. There will be six judges.

Club Meetings

Sundown- Oct. 23rd, 6:00 @ school

Whitharral-October 11th, 6:30 @ school Cafeteria

Ropes- October 10th, 6:00 @ Methodist Church activity center

Levelland- October 6th, 7:00 @ ABC

Smyer- TBA contact Lana Shaw

One Day 4-H

Saturday, **October 8th**, is designated as a day of community service for all 4-H clubs in the state of Texas. This year we will be having a blood drive at Levelland ABC school in the cafeteria from 9:00 - noon. 4-H member will be providing drinks, snacks, first aid kits and 4-H promotional items to people that donate blood. 4-H members will also have the opportunity to set up health displays in the hallway going to the cafeteria. We are also hosting a food drive for Bill's Backpacks, which is a program that sends food home over the weekend with kids that might not otherwise have a meal.

2011/2012 4-H Year Participation Fee

Reminder that the fee will go up to \$25 on Nov. 1st. Everyone that participates in a 4-H event including stock shows must be signed up.

If you have questions about any information in this newsletter contact the Hockley County Extension Agents at 894-3159.

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Ag Awareness & Junior Ag Awareness Day

The Junior Ag Awareness Day, formerly the 4-H Petting Zoo, has been set for **Oct. 11th**! We are also again hosting Agriculture Awareness Day on Oct. 13th for Hockley Co. 4th graders. We need 4-H'ers and adults to assist with the Junior Ag Awareness Day on the 11th. You must be 12 years old or older to assist. 4-H'ers need to be present from 8:30 to 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the office. We will need to send excuses to your school right away. We are also looking for animals for the petting zoo if you have anything that would work please let me know. *We also need volunteers to make cookies for Ag Awareness Day.* Chocolate chip only and 2 cookies put in a ziplock bag. Let me know if you can make some and we will need them by 9:00 on Oct. 13th.

Consumer Decision Making Contest

The consumer decision making contest will be held on **December 3rd** in Tahoka. The 4-H Connect deadline is November 18th. Robert will be coaching Consumer Decision Making this year and you need to send him an e-mail rj-scott@tamu.edu if you are interested. He will set up practices with those that are interested for November.

Nutrition Quiz Bowl/ Food Show

The District Food Show and Nutrition Quiz bowl contests will be on **November 5th** at Levelland High School. 4-H Connect due date is Oct. 26th. You must participate in the county food show to qualify for the district food show. If anyone is interested in Nutrition Quiz Bowl let me know so we can schedule practices.

2012 PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST RULES AND GUIDELINES RELEASED!

The 2012 Texas 4-H Photography Rules have been released. Some of the highlights for the 2012 Senior contest include:

- Theme Category is TRAINS. This theme allows 4-H members to take photos of all types of trains. The train theme includes both real and model trains. Photo subject must be either the engine or a train car. Photos of train accessories such as stations/ depots, signs, tracks, etc are not allowed.
- STORY BOARD has been added back as a category.
- Formatting of photos has been simplified. In 2012 all photos must be able to be printed at a 300 dpi at a 3 X 5 inch size. Max memory size of 1.5MB.
- Both entry form and uploading of photos will all be done on 4-H CONNECT.
- Time period for entry will be from April 1, 2012 to April 15, 2012.

To download a copy of the rules, visit the website at:

<http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/youth/photography/>

- Categories for Juniors and intermediates will be the same as above and submission process will be released soon.

Swine Skillathon

The swine skillathon contest will be held the afternoon of **December 3rd** in Tahoka after the consumer decision making contest. This contest will remain as a state wide contest for Roundup 2012. In addition there will be a new swine quiz bowl contest held sometime in the spring for district and will be invitational at Roundup which means intermediates and seniors will be able to participate. If you are interested in Swine Skillathon let me or Rusty Ferguson know.

Beef Quiz Bowl

The beef quiz bowl contest will be on **December 15th at 5:00** at the district office. We will start practices for the juniors and intermediates at **5:30** on Wednesday's starting **Oct. 19th**. The seniors will work out at a later time. If you are interested let me know.

Quality Counts Verification

All major shows are requiring that youth exhibitors must be trained in Quality Counts and this must be completed on-line before entries can be made.

Don't wait until it is time for entries to take the test we can't submit your entries to the major shows without it. The website to take the test is: <http://qualitycounts.tamu.edu/> Click on the verification tab and then take the test. So far we only have 21 kids that have passed it from Hockley County.



Stock Show Sign-Up

All 4-Hers who will be exhibiting an animal at a stock show (Hockley County, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, San Angelo, Houston, Austin) in the Spring need to come to the Extension office during the week of **November 7th through November 11th** between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. to sign-up. Heifer exhibitors be sure to bring your registration papers. Just a reminder that if you want to enter the Fort Worth stock show you need to make sure you sign up at this time, they are due earlier than the other shows. Don't forget this important date - you don't want to miss the deadline and not get to show your animals. There is a lot of office work that has to be done before the entries can be mailed in so please put this date on your calendar and be early.

Lamb and Goat Validation

This year there will be two organized days to validate your lambs and goats. One will be on **Oct. 25th** in Levelland and one TBD in Ropes. You will have to take your lambs and goats on these dates to get them validated. If you have any questions contact Robert.

Houston Calf Scramble

It is not too late to enter the Houston calf scramble. If you are interested contact the extension office.

Meats Judging

We have started meats judging practices and will meet again on **Oct. 12th at 6:30** at the Extension Office. The rest of the practices we will meet at Texas Tech meats lab to look at classes on Saturday afternoons. If you are interested contact me and I will get you the info to get started. Jason Wood will be coaching the teams. This is also an invitational contest at Roundup this year which means that intermediates and seniors will be able to participate.

2012 Texas 4-H Scholarships

The application will be released around **Nov. 15th**. If you want to apply start working now on obtaining your FAFSA and make sure you meet the minimum requirements of 1350 SAT score and 19 ACT score.

Recipe Rally

Information on the 2012 4-H Recipe Rally is now posted online. The contest is open to intermediates and seniors, with the top three in each age division invited to participate in the 2012 Texas 4-H Roundup. The theme for the 2012 contest is "Summer Snacks." Entry deadline is **February 1, 2012**.

Fashion Design Opportunity

The 4-H Conference Center seeks 4-H members with creative talents for apparel design. Specifically, we are looking for hot designs for t-shirts or other apparel items that can be marketed through the 4-H Center T-Shirt Shop. Submit your designs by November 4. The submissions will be “judged” by participants of Junior Leadership Retreat. 4-H members submitting winning designs will receive a finished product. For submission details, go to:

<http://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu>

Fall Weather is in the air and so it is time to begin preparing for many of our Fall 4-H contests. I hope you see one that sparks your interest. Be sure to talk to your club manager or myself and we will help you get involved. I'm very excited about one day 4-H happening this Saturday. This is a very neat community service project and I hope everyone can come and help. Hope you all are enjoying and celebrating National 4-H Week!

Amber Parkinson
Hockley CEA 4-H

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