



Austin County

4-H Newsletter

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

Austin County 4-H Livestock Team Takes Home District Championship

The season of contests has begun for many Austin County 4-H members. The District Livestock Judging contest was held in College Station on the campus of Texas A&M University, on April 26th, 2014. The contest is the culmination of a year's worth of work for many of the 4-H members who participate. Most begin preparation for the event way back in August, practicing once a week and competing almost every weekend during fall at one county fair contest after another. The teams take a short break in November and December and then starting back to practice and to competitions at the major livestock shows after the Christmas break.

The Senior Livestock Judging team of Chad Engeling, Walker Eskew, Kyle Jones and Clayton Schramm placed first at the contest, bettering their closest competitor by nine points. The difference in the contest was in the teams ability to give oral reasons about the classes that they judged. All Senior competitors were required to give four sets of oral reasons, one on sheep, one on swine, and two on cattle. Clayton Schramm was the high point individual of the entire district contest as well as the high point individual in oral reasons. Kyle Jones placed as the ninth high individual. The team has now qualified for the state competition, which will take place in June in College Station during Texas 4-H Roundup.

In the Intermediate age group Faith Martin and Hunter Vykukal had an excellent day. Hunter finished as the fifth high individual and was high point in swine. Faith finished as the 19th overall individual. The junior team of Kari Ann Engeling, Hunter Schumann, Hayden Vykukal and Jack Wise placed third overall as a team. Kari Ann Engeling was high point in cattle and Hayden Vykukal finished as high point in sheep and goats. Coy Geistemann competed as an individual in the Junior division.

Austin County 4-Her's Compete at District Fashion, Photography & Roundup Competitions

Spring is always a busy time for 4-H members from across the state. The year starts off with competitions at one of the many junior livestock shows, and then quickly transitions into County and District competitions in Public Speaking, Share the Fun, Quiz Bowl, Photography, Fashion Show, Shooting Sports and Judging Contests. Austin County 4-H members have been busy competing in all of these competitions this spring, representing the county and themselves quite well.

The first competition was the District 4-H Fashion Show, held on April 11th, in Victoria. Emily Shupak was the lone participant to come home with a 1st place ribbon from Austin County, as she competed in the Intermediate Everyday Living construction Division. Madison Makowsky placed 2nd in the Intermediate Dressy Buying Category, while Gabby Eskew was 4th in the Intermediate Fantastic Fashions under \$25.00 buying category. Lexi Higgins was the only Junior to compete at district, and placed 3rd in the Everyday Living construction category.

Judging of Photography entry's also took place in Victoria on April 11th. Madison Makowsky took home the Best of Show in the Intermediate Division with her entry in the Food division. Madison also placed 3rd with another entry in the Elements of Design division. Canute Janish was also a first place winner in the Intermediate Division. Kaylin Krebs placed 2nd in the Catch All Division, and Haley Guerrero placed 3rd in two

different division, Marine/Aquatic and Animals/Wildlife. Other Intermediate contestants were Adam Gajewski and Emily Shupak. Jack Wise was the only Junior participant from Austin County and placed 3rd with his photo in the Nature/Landscape division.

District Roundup Competition was held in Victoria on April 12th, at St. Joseph's High School. District Roundup encompasses several contests all in one day, Beef Quiz Bowl, Method Demonstration/Public Speaking, and Share the Fun Talent Competition. The Senior Beef Quiz Bowl Team of Walker Eskew, Gabriel Janish, Reid Janish and Emily Martin captured the District 11 title and did not lose a match during the event. They have now qualified to compete at the State competition in June. Sabrina Bonaccorso and Samantha Kins will be making their way to the state competition in Share the Fun, as they placed 1st in their Musical Instrument Category. The brother-sister duo of Wyatt and Bailey Blezinger also qualified for state competition by placing 1st with their Method Demonstration in the Health category. Gabriel Janish and his brother Reid Janish have also qualified for state competition by placing 1st and 2nd in their respective Method Demonstration Categories.



In the Intermediate division at District Roundup, the Beef Quiz Bowl team of Gabby Eskew, Canute Janish and Faith Martin placed 2nd. The brother and sister duo of David and Emily Lewis won top honors with their Solo/Band Performance in Share the Fun. Mark Bonaccorso placed 3rd with his Musical - Instrumental, and Canute Janish placed 1st with his Beef Presentation. Alyssa Hale also placed first in the Junior division with her vocal performance.

4-H Rifle Teams Compete at District

Juniors

Kip Kruse- 21st place
Blaze Byler-7th place (Personal best score)

Junior Intermediate

Cody Castille- 2nd (personal best score)
Lainey Graves-3rd (personal best score)
Hogan June-12th (personal best score)
Logan Phillip-14th
Jillian June-20th

Team of Cody, Lainey, Logan, and Jillian
Won 2nd place

Intermediate – Team Placed 2nd

Bailiegh Hirsch- 1st
Samantha Kins-7th
Katie Fey-10th

Senior

Harley Gardner-1st
Tyler Gardner-4th
Andrew Brightwell-12th
Gaithon Brau-17th

Team won 2nd, advance to the State Indoor Rifle
Match, held June 7-8 in Victoria

District 4-H Horse Show

The annual District 4-H Horse Show will be held on June 20-21, 2014, at the Brackenridge Event Center in Edna. Registration forms and the official working order for the event are available from the Extension Office or from the website <http://austin.agrilife.org>. All horses that compete in the show should have been validated through the online process prior to May 1st.

4-H Clover Kids Project

The 4-H Clover Kids program is open to youth that are 5-8 years old and are not old enough to compete in 4-H events. Several activities have been started by the leader of the program, Amanda Peschel. Most recently, they have completed an Egg to Chick, egg hatching program, where they learned about the development and life cycle of a chicken during each stage of their development in the egg all the way to hatching.



The next program offered to Clover Kids is the 4-H Bucket Calf Project. The bucket calf project teaches our clover members about raising a bottle calf. The calves will be shown during this year's Austin County Fair, on Sunday, October 12, 2014. All participants should be entered as an Austin County 4-H Clover Kid (<http://texas.4honline.com>). To enter, there is an entry form available at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office or you can go online <http://austin.agrilife.org> and download the forms. The entry form and the \$10.00 registration fee are due on in the Extension Office by July 1st. A full listing of the rules are available on the county website.

4-H Record Books

Record keeping is a valuable skill taught to members of the Texas 4-H Program. Members are encouraged to keep project records and have these records reviewed annually by submitting a record book. Members who complete a Record Book are also eligible to advance to District and State Record Book contests and apply for annual 4-H Awards. Record Books are printed and placed into binders for submission and judging. There are training videos available online at www.4hreports.com. Record Books are due in the Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. June 20th.

4-H Star Awards

Star Awards are county level awards that distinguish 4-H members within the county program as exceptional leaders and serve as a reward for all their hard work. Information on the specific age categories, star award levels, and applications can be found on the county website <http://austin.agrilife.org>. In order to qualify for a Star Award, you must complete a record book the year you apply. Award applications are due in the Extension Office by 5:00 p.m., June 20th.

4-H Leadership Lab

District 11 4-H Leadership Lab to be held June 23-25, 2014, at Alto Frio Baptist Camp, in Leakey Texas. All Leadership Lab participants must register on 4-H CONNECT by Friday, May 30, 2014. Late registration will be allowed from May 31 through midnight June 6 for an additional \$25.00 fee. The cost for Leadership Lab is \$165.00 for 4-H members.

Texas 4-H Equine Ambassador Program

In an effort to expand the applicant pool for the 2014 Texas 4-H Equine Ambassador program, the committee has decided to extend the application deadline to **June 1, 2014**. The Texas 4-H Equine Ambassador program strives to provide high school aged 4-H members the opportunity to develop and practice advanced leadership skills related to mentor other youth, and to become advocates for animal agriculture.

The objectives for the program are to:

- Prepare youth to serve in leadership capacities in youth equine programs across Texas.
- Prepare youth for the experience of the University setting, through intensive science based instruction and experiences.
- Prepare and provide opportunities for youth to serve in advocacy roles for animal agriculture, 4-H, and youth equine programs.
- Develop a heightened awareness of career opportunities in animal agriculture and advocacy.

The event will be held in Gainesville, Texas: June 29-July 3, 2014. Registration information is available online at <http://www.texasyouthlivestock.com/equine-ambassadors/> or https://agrilife.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6gHrY0WpAch9rAV

State Steer Validation / State Fair of Texas Swine, Lamb & Goat Validation

If you are planning on exhibiting a Steer at one of the major livestock shows such as The State Fair of Texas, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, San Angelo, Austin or Houston, that steer will need to be state validated. Also, if you plan on exhibiting a Swine, Lamb or Goat at the State Fair of Texas this October, those animals will also need to be validated for that show. Validation will take place on Thursday, June 26th, 2014. The validation committee will come to your home and validate your animals, so you do not need to bring them to us, however, there should be someone, preferably a parent, available during the validation process. Please contact the Extension Office if you have questions.

4-H Club Officer Training

The Multi County 4-H Club Officer training will be held at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Brenham on Saturday, July 19th, 2014. If you have been elected by your club in a leadership role, eg. President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, etc... please make plans to attend this training. It will be of benefit to you, and it will let you know what is expected from each office. Times for the event are still pending.

Parent Leaders Association and 4-H Council

Parents Leaders Association will be holding their next meeting on Thursday, June 26th at 7pm at the First National Bank Civic Center. 4-H Council will meet at the Extension Office Meeting Room. In addition, elections will take place at both meetings. If you plan on running for a County Council position, you must fill out an application, located on the county website (<http://austin.agrilife.org>) and submit the completed copy to the Extension office by 5 pm on May 30th. All county council candidates must be prepared to give a speech in support of their officer position. Specifics as to who may apply to be a council officer are located on the application. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact the County Extension Office. Come grow with us!

Minute Maid Anyone!!!

We are in the process of planning a Clothing and Textile tour with a twist at Minute Maid Park. The tour will focus on the Houston Astros Retail clothing line. We will be receiving a behind the scenes look at their retail line and the ball park. If you would like to be a part of this fantastic opportunity, please call the Extension Office and sign up by June 27th. The tour is set for July 11th at 2:00 p.m. and more information will be coming soon! We are excited and looking forward to having a great time! Parents, a couple of chaperones will be needed for the event. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact the office.



Safety Day Tour Guides Still Needed

The Annual Youth and Safety Day is just around the corner and help is still needed. It's scheduled for May 15th at the Austin County Fairgrounds. We are still in need of 9 more volunteers. We are asking that guides be at least in the 7th grade and prepared to lend a hand. All participants will need to arrive by 8:00 a.m. and excuse letters will be sent to all schools for your participation. Your lunch will be provided at the event. Please contact the Extension Office as soon as you can. Thanks!

Summer F.C.S. Camp

Summer time will be here before you know it and we have a plan in mind for you. Come join us on Friday, July 18th and experience "A Little Science in the Kitchen" and "Clothing Capers" in the afternoon! We plan to have a fun, filled day that will allow your creativity to come to life. Non 4-H members are welcome to participate – so bring a friend. The event will be held at the County Extension Office and the Austin County Courthouse. The cost will be \$5.00 per person which will help cover cost for morning refreshments, lunch and all activities. The day will start with registration at 8:30 and the festivities will begin at 9:00 a.m. The camp will conclude at 4:00 p.m. A registration form and flyer will details and pictures will be available on the county website after May 23. The deadline to register is Monday, July 7th.



Junior Leader Lab

Junior Leader Lab will be on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 at Texana Park and Campground in Edna. The cost is \$30.00 for all youth participants. Junior Lab participants will participate in a variety of fun, hands-on and educational workshops. The workshops will be: Wildlife/Alligators; Water Teambuilding; Sportfishing; and Birding & Crafting. The purpose of Junior Leader Lab is:


- To provide a district-level leadership training experience for younger 4-H members.
- To provide an opportunity for District 4-H Council Officers and members to demonstrate their leadership skills.
- To provide a wholesome, yet educational, experience through cultural offerings, craft activities and social interaction.
- Rotate throughout the district annually to focus on natural resources or other unique features of counties within District 11.

Important Dates to Remember

June	7	-	Beef Project (Hoof Trimming), 9:00 a.m. at the Fairgrounds
	7	-	Sheep & Goat Project (Shearing & Fitting for Show), 9:00 a.m. at the Fairgrounds
	7	-	Swine Project, 9:00 a.m. Location TBA (Note this is a change to the printed project schedule)
	7	-	Turkey Project Meeting, 10:00 a.m. at the Extension Office
	9	-	Horse Project (Mandatory Weigh-In & Evaluation), 7:00 p.m at Rice Ranch
	9-13	-	State 4-H Roundup in College Station
	20	-	Record Books and Star Awards Due in the Extension Office
	20-21	-	District 4-H Horse Show, Edna
	23-25	-	District 4-H Leadership Lab in Leakey
	23-24	-	County Recordbook Judging (Volunteers needed to assist)
	26	-	4-H Council and Parent Leaders Association Meetings at FNB Civic Center Building in Bellville

- July 8 - Jr. Leader Lab – Edna
 9 - Star Awards Interviews
 10 - District Recordbook Judging in Goliad
 11 - Minute Maid Tour
 12 - Swine Tag In, 6:00-8:00 a.m. at the Fairgrounds
 12 - Sheep & Goat Tag In, 7:00-10:00 a.m. at the Fairgrounds
 14 - Horse Project, (Optional Workout on Showmanship), at Rice Ranch
 17 - Sheep & Goat Tag In, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds
 17 - Beef Project (Hair Care and Grooming), 6:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds
 18 - Science in the Kitchen and Clothing Caper
 19 - Multi County Club Officer Training in Brenham
 19 - Swine Tag In, 6:00-8:00 a.m. at the Fairgrounds
 26 - Rabbit Project (Showmanship), 10:00 a.m. FNB Civic Center in Bellville
- Aug 9-10 - Austin County Jubilee Steer & Heifer Show (Showmanship Clinic at 9:00 a.m. each day)
 11 - Horse Project (Optional Workout), Time TBA at the Fairgrounds
 16 - 4-H Banquet, Time and Location TBA
 23 - Mandatory Progress Show for Bucket Calf, Beef, Horse, Rabbits, Sheep & Goat/Showmanship Contest at the Fairgrounds
 23 - Swine Project, (Skillathon), 9:00 a.m. at the Fairgrounds
 23 - Broiler Project Meeting, 10:00 a.m., at the Fairgrounds
 29 - Entry Deadline for Austin County Fair

For questions and more information, please contact:


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