Happy Fall! We hope that everyone is having a great school year! The annual food drive benefiting Gonzales GCAM starts October 1st, if you would like to donate please bring the items to the Extension Office. It is never too late to start a new 4-H project, if you have any questions please call the office!
Registration on 4-H Connect

Please go to the following link https://texas.4honline.com and register. Your ID and password will be the same as last year. If you have any problems or questions please call or email Marcella Marcella.Perales@ag.tamu.edu at the Extension Office for assistance.

4-H Council Members and Adult Leaders

Thanks to all of our previous County Council officers for doing such a great job and look forward to working with the new officers. Meetings will be at the County Extension Office on November 21, 2017 at 6:30 P.M. All Gonzales County 4-H club members are encouraged to come.

President: Braden Clampit  
Vice-President: Bailey Blair  
Secretary: Justin Komoll  
Treasurer: Sadie Thibodeaux  
Reporter: Savay Sexton  
Parliamentarian: Kathleen Knesek

District Council Representatives: Braden Clampit, Ashtyn Kardosz and Kathleen Knesek

County Council News

By: Braden Clampit, President

HOWDY! Great plans have been made for the month of October and November. National 4-H Week kicks off October 1-7, 2017. You are invited to take part in the One Day 4-H service project and the Food Drive. The council also met and discussed covering more costs if you choose to participate in a 4-H event (read all the details in the newsletter). Judge Bird joined us to sign the proclamation for National 4-H Week and as a council we voted to donate $1000 on behalf of Gonzales County 4-H to the Texas 4-H Foundation to help other 4-H families that have been affected by Hurricane Harvey. Don’t forget the county shirts are ready to be picked up at the office and to sign up to ride the float. You can promote 4-H by spreading the word and inviting someone to your next meeting.
4-H Record Books– Start keeping records monthly!

Recordkeeping is a very 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 Texas 4-H Record book. The primary purposes of completing a record book are for a young person to develop the skills necessary to set goals, work toward achieving those goals, reflect on his/her experiences, and set new and higher goals for themselves. A secondary benefit is to prepare young people for the process of completing quality academic scholarship applications.

It is the goal of the Gonzales County Adult Leaders to provide a local review date to ensure all components have been included in the record book and provide suggestions before the book leaves for further judging. This deadline is required for all books in order to be eligible to receive any awards or to be able to apply for a senior scholarship. If a record book is incomplete, the member will be notified and corrections will need to be made prior to the multi county deadline. The Gonzales County deadline for review is in June 2018. Books will be reviewed a second time to ensure corrections were made before leaving for Multi County Record book judging. Senior level books must have all corrections made in order to remain eligible for the scholarship.

Record book information can be found at https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/recordbooks/ or http://gonzales.agrilife.org

RESOURCES

Clover Kids
The 4-H program serves youth from 3rd grade (minimum age 8) through 12th grade. As an affiliated group, youth enrolled as 4-H Clover Kids have activities and programs suitable for their age group. Clover Kids are not eligible to participate in activities, recognition programs and competitive events reserved for older youth.

Competitive events and competitive judging are inappropriate for Clover Kids. Clover Kids may have animal projects; however, it is recommended animal projects should not exceed a rabbit in size. Most standard 4-H accident insurance normally is not available for youth under 5 years of age.

Gonzales County 4-H owns a liquid nitrogen tank to store bull semen for any 4-H member to use for their beef projects. This tank is available for check-out at the AgriLife Extension Office.

Rural Youth Loans… the Farm Service Agency has a program that provides loans to youth for purchasing income producing livestock to improve and/or begin their operation. Information on this program is available at the Gonzales FSA Office, 830-672-7511.
**Take Pictures**—and tell us what is going on at your club meetings or other 4-H activities. Let’s promote 4-H in our community and show Gonzales what 4-H is all about. Send your pictures and stories to gonzales@ag.tamu.edu.

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**EVENTS**

**LIVESTOCK PROJECTS**

4-H members who want assistance in selecting their 4-H livestock projects or would like further advice on managing their projects, are encouraged to communicate with their club managers, and are also welcome to seek assistance from your county agent, Dwight Sexton. Mr. Sexton is available to make project visits and provide advice on your projects.

Here is a helpful website for 4-H members interested in showing livestock:

http://texasyouthlivestock.com/

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You can stay up to date on events with the Nixon-Smiley Stock Show by following their Facebook page **Nixon-Smiley Livestock Show** http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Nixon-Smiley-Livestock-Show/131652440191335

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**2017-2018 Texas 4-H/FFA Heifer Validation Program**

Again this fall, there will be a major show heifer validation for any 4-H or FFA member wanting to exhibit heifers at the major livestock shows (Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Houston, Austin, Waco & Dallas. The animal ownership deadline and registration papers will need to be transferred to the exhibitor before this validation. The heifers must be tattooed, brands recorded and hair samples will be collected for a DNA assay. There will be a $15 charge per heifer validated. The validation will occur on **October 25**th, at the Guadalupe Valley Vet. Clinic from 5-6:00 pm. Previously major show validated heifers do not need to be re-validated unless there is a change of ownership or breed, but do need to be present for the Gonzales Stock Show validation.
South Texas Double Trouble Prospect Show - Steer and Heifer - Nov. 11 - Jourdanton

Coastal Bend Classic - Clinics and Show - Dec. 2 - Sinton - Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goat

Cotton Country Classic - Oct 21 - Robstown - Lambs & Goats
          Oct 22 - Steers & Heifer

James Madison FFA Booster Club - San Antonio– Oct 28 - Lambs & Goats

Jackpot Shows

Oct. 7-8, 2017 Atascosa County Fair - Pleasanton: Lamb, Goat, Heifer, Steer

Gonzales County Youth Show Sheep, Goat, and Halter Heifer Exhibitors

- Validation for the lambs and goats will occur **Wednesday, October 18, 2017** from **5-6:00 pm** at the JB Wells Park. Major Show lamb & goat validation will also occur then.
- Validation for the halter heifers will occur **Wednesday October 25, 2017** from **5-6:00 pm** at the Guadalupe Valley Vet. Clinic.
- Rules by the Gonzales County Youth Show Association for 2018 are available at [http://gonzales.agrilife.org/](http://gonzales.agrilife.org/) under the tab **Publications/Workshops/CEU’s/Stock Show Information**.

GONZALES LIVESTOCK SHOW - Heads up on the rules for the 2018 Gonzales Livestock Show, all exhibitors must be a FFA or 4-H member in Gonzales County by November 1, 2017.
Livestock Judging

We have a group of members who participate in many youth livestock judging contests. At these contests, there are 4 animals in a class that are placed, consisting of cattle, swine, sheep and goats. This program is a great way for kids to build confidence, and improve their decision making skills. They also learn about livestock production and life skills along the way. We will host livestock judging practices this fall as time permits. If you want your child to participate in these practices and contests, please notify the Extension Office so you can stay informed. Our kids have been very successful in the past, and have learned much.

Gonzales County 4-H Livestock Judging Team Wins 2nd at Contest

The Gonzales County Livestock Judging Team participated in the Guadalupe County 4-H Livestock Judging contest in Marion on September 23, 2017. The junior team placed 2nd overall out of 27 teams. The team was 1st in the Sheep and Goat division, 5th in cattle and 9th in swine. Savay Sexton placed 2nd overall in the Junior division out of 85 juniors, Augustus Sexton placed 18th overall, and Barrett Shelton placed 31st overall. Kelli Soefje placed 53rd in the senior division.

(Article by Savay Sexton)
Gonzales Shooting Light Rifle Shooting Sports

Location: Gonzales City Landfill near the Gonzales City animal shelter that is located on the County Road off FM 532 (Moulton Highway)

Dates:
October 8th, 2-4 pm
November 5th, 2-4 pm
December 10th, 2-4 pm

RSVP to the Extension Office by Friday Noon before the date of the shoot. Participants must be registered in 4-H on 4-H Connect and are encouraged to bring their .22 rifle to the event. An OBI (open breech indicator) is needed for each rifle. Please call Jay for questions about this.

For further questions, please contact Jay Pyssen at (830)203-1636.

Navarro County 4-H Shotgun team Shoot
Saturday, Nov. 18th @ 8 am in Teague
4-H Sporting Clays, Whiz Bang, and an open shoot for adults. Register in iclays.com

State Fair of Texas Livestock Judging Contest
October 10, 2017 in Dallas

Hill Country Livestock Judging Contest
October 14, in Mason
8 AM Registration

Clover Campaign @ Tractor Supply
October 7th - Rising Star (1-3 pm)
October 14th
Sundowners 8:30-10:30 am
Smiley 10:30-12:30
This shift is available 12:30-2:30
Sundowners 4-H Horse Project

Do you LOVE horses?  
Do you want to sharpen your skills?  
Come join in the fun!  
Location: JB Wells Arena  
2301 CR 297, Gonzales, TX 78629

Meeting Dates & Times as follows:  
October 23rd @ 6 pm  
November 20th @ 6 pm  
December 18th @ 6 pm  
Be sure to bring your horse & other equipment (Saddle, Bridle, etc.)

If you have any questions contact  
Amy Thibodeaux  
@ (830) 203-0470

If you do not have a horse but are interested call  
Amy.

The County Food Show and Food Challenge will be at the PACE building on Sunday November 5th from 3-6 pm. Anyone wishing to learn more about the contest or enter should contact Natalie Knesek at 830-857-6164 or nataliekneseck@att.net. Entry forms will be sent via email to those expressing interest. Already established Food Challenge teams need members, as well. Entries will be due on October 31st.

2017 Guadalupe County Fair Food Challenge

Sunday, October 15 at Seguin Colliseum. Entry Deadline is Oct. 6th. Additional Information is available at the Extension Office.
Come & Take It Parade

If you signed up to ride the 4-H float please have your child at EBARR on the side at the barns @ 9:30 am and trailer will put out @ 9:45 am. Be sure to take water, snack if needed, sunglasses sunscreen prior, etc. Wear a green 4-H shirt or any shirt.
Quality Counts Verification for Gonzales and Major Livestock Show Exhibitors

- **How often must I be “verified”?**

  Exhibitors only need to be verified once as a junior and once again as a senior. Junior is 8 and in the 3rd grade through 13 years of age as of the previous August 31st. Senior is 14 years or older as of the previous August 31st.

- **How do I become verified?**
  Pass the online test with 80% correct answers (8 out of 10)

- **How many times can I take the test?**
  As many times as necessary to achieve an 80% score

- **What happens when I pass the test?**
  You are given a Quality Counts verification number and the online system allows you to print a personalized certificate.

- **What do I do with the Quality Counts verification number?**
  Hold on to the number and use it when asked for by stock shows as a part of entry requirement.

- **How do I learn the material needed to pass the test?**
  All of the material is available online at [Qualitycounts.tamu.edu](http://Qualitycounts.tamu.edu) and from there you can also access the online teaching system “Texas Trail”. The online version will take 2 hours to complete and can be done at more than one sitting. Ag Science Teachers and/or County Extension Agents may also offer classroom and hands-on educational activities using the Quality Counts curriculum.

- **Once you have completed the training, click the “Verification” tab and take the test.**

- **Do I have to be “verified” to show?** Check your stock show rules. Each show has different requirements regarding Quality Counts verification. This includes deadlines for verification and whether or not you must be verified to participate.

Above information was taken from [http://agrilife.org/qualitycounts/verification/faq/](http://agrilife.org/qualitycounts/verification/faq/) where you can go for more information.
Club News

Sundowners

The Sundowners 4-H Club will be hosting their monthly meeting this Sunday September 10th at 4:00 pm at the FUMC hall.

The new 2017-2018 Sundowners 4-H officers are as follows L to R front row: Savay Sexton-Reporter, Bailey Blair-President, Madison Stamport- 3rd Vice President, and Danni Blair- Secretary. L to R middle row: Cooper LaBuhn- Council Delegate, Madelynn Brown-Treasurer, Frank Benes- 2nd Vice President, and Augustus Sexton- Council Delegate. L to R top row: Braden Clampit- Vice President, Lane Mills- Parliamentarian, Coy LaBuhn- Council Delegate, and Cade Davis- Health and Safety. The officers would like to invite you to come learn more about 4-H and what it has to offer.

Rising Star

Brady Oakes and Keely Knesek represented Gonzales County at the Luling Foundation 4-H 101 on September 19th. They spoke to visitors about Food Challenge.
**IMPORTANT REMINDERS FROM COUNTY COUNCIL**

**4-H County Council Covering More Costs!**
The Gonzales County 4-H Council met 9/19/17 and agreed to cover the following costs:

- Half camp fees to the 4-H Conference Center in Brownwood or Leadership based camps hosted by Texas 4-H
- Half entry fees for participation in a 4-H hosted workshop or state round-up workshop(s)
- ALL entry fees for District 10 and/or State 4-H level contests hosted by the Texas 4-H Staff
- ALL entry fees for 4-H team based contests

Contact office if this may apply to you. Members are held accountable by submitting a 4-H payment request form and provide receipt of event attended to the council within 30 days of the event attended. Members will be notified once paperwork has been reviewed. Contact office for further information. Paperwork can be picked up at the office or found online at gonzales.agrilife.org under financial assistance header.

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**2017-2018 Limited Financial Aid Information**

Gonzales County 4-H Adult Leaders are available to provide limited financial aid for members who have attended workshops, camps, or clinics that enhances his/her 4-H project. Financial aid is also available for those who have represented Gonzales County at the district, state, or national levels in other events. Financial aid can include travel expenses. FIRST, members are held accountable by submitting the limited financial assistance request form and provide receipts (s) of event attended to the adult leaders within 30 days of the event attended. SECOND, the VERIFICATION FORM must be completed after speaking at any 4-H meeting within the given time frame. Late forms will not be accepted.

Contact Natalie Knesek 830-857-6164 or Melissa Clampit 830-857-4931 for more information. Paperwork can be picked up at the office or found online at gonzales.agrilife.org under the 4-H tab.
2017-2018 GONZALES COUNTY 4-H ADULT LEADERS
LIMITED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST FORM

(Must submit form within 30 days to be considered)

4-H Member’s Name: _______________________________________________________
Parent’s Name: _________________________________________ Contact Number: ________________

Date of Event: ____________________________
Event: __________________________________________

**Fees:**
Event Fee: ________________________________ Parking Fee: __________________
TOTAL mileage: ____________________________ Other: _________________________

**Per member:**
Attach a hand written or typed paragraph on a regular sheet of paper explaining what was learned from this 4-H event.
Submit copies of receipts.
Download and print VERIFICATION FORM (online at gonzalesagrilife.org). Complete and submit form once you have spoken at either a club or council meeting within 2 months of this event. (April-August events will be shared within the first two months of the 4-H year). Please note if verification form is not received then the limited reimbursement request is forfeited.

We have read and understand the expectations to be eligible to receive limited reimbursement.

Parent Signature: ___________________________________________________
Member Signature: ___________________________________________________

Thank you for representing Gonzales County 4-H!

Paperwork will be reviewed during regularly scheduled meetings of the Adult Leaders.

To be filled out by office only:

Date submitted: ______________________________

7.14.2017 R0
GONZALES COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL IS
HOSTING A FOOD DRIVE from
October 1st to December 12th
Stocking shelves for the Holiday Season!

- Bring food items (non-perishable items) to your monthly
- 4-H meeting or to the Gonzales AgriLife Office

- Keep a food count and turn items into GCAM.

- GRAND total will be announced mid-December.
NATIONAL 4-H WEEK
October 1 - 7, 2017

GONZALES COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL invites you to participate in various events throughout the week.

- Listen to announcements at GISD schools
- Read the local paper for 4-H articles.
- Wear green during the week!
- Attach a green ribbon to your backpack!
- Ride the float in the Come & Take It parade (be sure to rsvp with the office)
- Help deliver bird feeders on Monday, October 2 to The Heights, The Texan, Rhomberg House & Country Village
- Visit one of the locations listed above and share your smile with the elderly during this week!
ONE DAY 4-H ◆ OCTOBER 7, 2017

MAKING THE BEST BETTER with BIRD FEEDERS!

The Gonzales County 4-H Program received a generous donation of bird feeders from Gonzales Tractor Supply and have decided to give a majority of them to The Texan, The Heights, Rhomberg House and Country Village. The simple act of putting out a bird feeder and keeping it full will provide the residents the chance to see birds daily.

JOIN US at the Gonzales AgriLife Office on Monday, October 2nd @ 4:30 p.m.

Feeders/supplies will be loaded and deliveries made.

All members are encouraged to visit these locations during National 4-H Week (October 1-7) or on ONE DAY 4-H (October 7).

KIDS & SMILES are always appreciated by the elderly.
District 10 4-H
Fall Round-Up
December 7-9, 2017
Kerrville, TX

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<th>Thursday December 7th, 2017</th>
<th>Saturday-December 9th, 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>Prep Day for Food Challenge &amp; Food Show</td>
<td>Beef Quiz Bowl</td>
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<td>Friday-December 8th, 2017</td>
<td>Horse Quiz Bowl</td>
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<td>Food Challenge</td>
<td>Nutrition Quiz Bowl</td>
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<td>Food Show</td>
<td>Educational Presentations</td>
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<td>Entomology</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
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Registration will be on 4-H Connect from October 24th-Nov. 7th.
Late Registration will be November 8-9th ONLY.
OCTOBER 2017

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<td>Day 4-H Project (See Flyer)</td>
<td>COST 7 pm Meeting</td>
<td>Leesville 7 pm Nixon 7 pm Meetings</td>
<td>Waelder 6 pm Meeting</td>
<td>Extension Office Closes @ Noon</td>
<td>COME &amp; TAKE IT PARADE</td>
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<td>Smiley 7 pm Shooting Sport 2-4 pm</td>
<td>Columbus Day Extension Office Closed</td>
<td>State Fair of Texas Livestock Judging Contest in Dallas</td>
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<td>Rising Star 4pm Sundowner 4pm Meetings</td>
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<td>18 Validation for the lambs &amp; goats 5-6:00 pm @ JB Wells Park.</td>
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<td>Coastal Bend Classic Robstown–lambs &amp; Goats</td>
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<td>25 Heifer Validation Guadalupe Valley Vet. Clinic from 5-6:00 pm</td>
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Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County.