**4-H Blast**

**November 23, 2016**

* **November 27:** Thorndale 4-H Club Meeting, see below for times/locations
* **November 29:** Major Shows Swine Validation, 4-6pm, YEB
* **December 2:** Pecan Bake Off Contest, 8-9am Drop off, Bea’s Kitchen-Cameron
* **December 5:** MCJLS Mkt Hogs Tag In, 4-6pm, YEB
* **December 6:** Cameron 4-H Meeting, 6pm, Cameron YOE High
* **December 7:** District 4-H Food Challenge, Belton Expo
* **December 8:** MCJLS Mkt Broilers Orders Due

***4-H Blasts:*** [***http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-blasts/***](http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-blasts/)

***MCJLS/MAJOR SHOW 4-H LIVESTOCK DATES:***

Mkt. Hogs --------------------------------------------- December 5 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (subject to change).

Milam County Major show tags will be accepted.

Mkt. Bunnies will be tattooed ------------------------ February 20, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (subject to change).

Mkt. Broilers ------------------------------------------ Order from Teacher/Agent by December 8.

Mkt. Turkey ------------------------------------------- Order from Teacher/Agent. See Rule F1.

Major Shows Swine Validation- November 29th, 4-6pm, YEB

***CLUB NEWS:***

Thorndale 4-H Club: **November 27th**- Club will meet at Mr. Gattis Pizza in Taylor at 3:00 on Sunday afternoon. The club will buy a buffet for each 4-H member. If you would like to play games, that will be on your own dollar. We will then head over to the nursing home around 4:30 to sing carols and visit the nursing home residents. She asked if our club would be willing to bring non-slip socks as a service project. Thorndale Tree Lighting Celebration is scheduled to begin at 6:00pm. We will be serving cookies and hot cocoa and singing. We are asking each family to bring cookies. The 4-H club will provide hot chocolate, cups, and napkins.

Cameron 4-H Club: **December 6th**- 6pm, 4-H Meeting/Christmas Party, come and decorate cookies!

***CALLING ALL BAKERS!!!!!*** The Pecan Bake Off Contest will be Friday, **December 2nd** at Bea’s Kitchen in Cameron. We have added some extra categories to the Pecan Bake-Off: Pie, Cake, Cookie, Candy. We will also divide based on age turned in. Adults and Youth (K-12th grade) are welcome to participate. Entries for the Bake-Off will be needed to be dropped off by 9am on December 2nd at Bea’s Kitchen in Cameron (parents may drop them off for children, no release from school will be provided). Show off your pecan baking skills!!! Free to enter! Please use a disposable container ONLY, recipe must be included, and food and recipe will not be given back. No refrigerated items accepted. On cookies and candy, please provide 1 dozen. Viewing and ribbon pick up at 12pm (you can also come by the Office after school). A bake sale of all items will take place at 12pm.

***Milam County Junior Livestock Show 4-H Club Meeting Requirement:***

* You much enroll on 4-H Connect for the current year starting September 1st
* You can ONLY attend your primary club to count for the TWO meetings
* Attend TWO meetings from **August 1, 2016-March 1, 2017**
* Make sure you SIGN the sign in/attendance sheet when you first arrive at the meeting

***State 4-H Opportunities:*** Here are a few opportunities going on in the State 4-H Program! For more opportunities and information, see the website: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/state-4-h-opportunities/>

**TEEN RETREAT:** The Texas 4-H Center is hosting Teen Retreat January 6th-8th . This weekend long program is for youth in grades 8-12 to learn about specific activities inside 4-H. County Agents, 4-H Specialists and the 4-H Center summer staff will be leading the programs. This year’s educational sessions include Vet Science, Gardening, Leadership, and Healthy Lifestyles. As always, we will have a 4-H dance on Saturday night. Cost is $120 for youth or $90 for adults. Any adults attending must enroll as a volunteer in 4-H Connect, complete the online child protection training in 4-H Connect, and submit a background check, also via 4-H Connect. Please share this information with you 4-H families. We are looking forward to a great program.

**2017 Beekeeping Essay Contest information:** This year’s essay will be submitted online through Texas 4-H Connect.2017 Essay Topic: “How can MP3 (Managed Pollinator Protection Plan) more effectively protect honey bees from pesticide exposure?” Deadline for submission will be Friday, January 27, 2017. AWARDS: Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three winners from Texas 4-H: 1st Place: $300.00, 2nd Place: $200.00, 3rd Place: $100.00

**Texas Robotics Advisory Committee:** The Texas 4-H Youth Development program is now accepting applications for youth and adult committee members to serve on the Texas 4-H Robotics Advisory Committee. Applications will close at midnight on December 9, 2016. Eligibility and other details can be found in the on the state 4-H opportunities website. The links for youth and adult applications are also on the website. Youth are required to have a CEA, club manager, or project leader (non-relative) complete the Youth Recommendation Form.

***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](http://www.Join4-h.com) or [www.facebook.com/milamcountyfourH](http://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