Texas Cooperative EXTENSION

Rockwall 4-H Gazette

Rockwall County 4-H Gazette is a newsletter for 4H'ers, parents, leaders, and supporters.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in Extension programs are encouraged to contact the Rockwall County Extension Office.

County Achievement Event

Our annual event recognizing 4-H'ers and leaders for their participation and accomplishments during the 2006-2007 4-H year was held on August 14, 2007 at the Historic Rockwall County Courthouse. This year 29 awards were presented to youth and volunteers in the form of certificates and medals.

Will Morris of the Rockwall Clovers 4-H Club was recognized for completing a project record book and advancing to the District Record Book contest. He won a 1st place medal at district for his submission in the Best Project Photos category.

Rockwall County 4-H'ers Brittania Darrington, Kylee Darrington, Victoria Darrington, Don Malone and Mollie Malone were recognized for competing in and placing at the Spring Roundup and the District Photography contests this year. Alexandra Thomas was recognized for her participation at the Texas 4-H Rabbit Extravaganza. Don and Mollie were also recognized for participating on the State level at the Texas Shooting Sports Extravaganza and the State 4-H Shooting Games. Mike Malone of the Lucky Shamrocks Shooting Sports Club recognized Addison, Brianna, Camille and Jocelyn Gomez, as well as, Johnny Gutilla and Don and Mollie Malone for their outstanding showing in the 2005 Postal League.

Mike Malone, Club Manager of the Lucky Shamrocks Shooting Sports Club was this years' recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for 4-H volunteers. Mike Malone is pictured with County Judge, Chris Florance.

New Year, New Opportunities

As you will see in this newsletter, there is a lot to be excited about this fall. The opportunities as a 4-H member and leader are unlimited! Decide now on the activities in which you desire to shine. Set your goals and make plans to make this the best year ever!

You must attend the regular monthly meeting in order to enroll. As you register, be sure to include both member and parent signatures and your project interests. Also, please include an e-mail address if you have one.

If you are unable to attend your club's meeting in September, plan to attend the October meeting. It is very important that you re-enroll with your club by October in order to continue receiving this newsletter and other important 4-H information.

Todd K. Williams
CEA - Ag/NR

Thanks Leaders & Volunteers!

Special thanks to our Club Mangers, Project Leaders and all of our Adult Leaders who contributed time and leadership during the 2006 -2007 4-H year.

We appreciate you and could not do it with out you! Do not forget to fill out a Volunteer Leader Form during re-enrollment!

Club Mangers -
Busy Bees
Travis & Wendy Reynolds
Lucky Shamrocks
Shooting Sports Club
Mike Malone
Oopsie Daisies
Wiloni Darrington
Rock City Rangers
Angie Gutilla &
Sandy Gomez
Rockwall Clovers
Kevin & Sheri Fowler,
Doug & Jennifer Presti

2006-2007
Project Leaders -

Tammy Carrell, Sandy Cook, Wiloni Darrington, John Fontana, Angie Gutilla, Suzy Carr, Mike Malone, Don Ritchey, Sheri Fowler and Travis Reynolds.

We Appreciate you!

4-H Club Manager Training

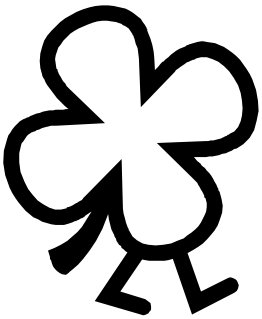
Thank you to the 7 club managers from 5 clubs who met on August 21 to gain skills in how to better coordinate the 4-H club program.

Our club managers may be trained and ready to go, but the success of each 4-H club depends on parent involvement and support.

Just like 4-H members, parents will only get out of the 4-H experience what they choose to put in it. Don't be shy! If there is a job that you are good at and want to do, speak up. Your assistance will be truly appreciated by our hard working club managers.

Project activities should be gearing up in the next few weeks. If you have not heard from a project leader, be sure to ask someone for details at the next club meeting. Also, if there is not a project active for your interest, discuss the possibility with your parents.

Leader Resources



New projects are being organized and new volunteers are agreeing to lead these groups of 4-H'ers! As a project leader, you may be asking yourself, "What have I agreed to do and how do I do it?!?!"

For project guides, manuals and promotional items related to your project interest, visit: http://tx4-h.tamu.edu/publications/

On this site you will be able to access the Texas 4-H Clover.

The Texas 4-H Clover is a resource guide can help anyone plan project activities within a particular project.

Curriculum and video resources are available in the Extension Office. If you would like to know if we have a guide for a particular project, call us at 972-882-0375.

Fall Leadership Retreat

The 2007 Fall Leadership Retreat will be held November 16-18 at Lake Brownwood. This workshop is open to 4-H'ers ages 14-19 who are interested in enhancing their leadership skills in the areas of public speaking, group facilitation, service learning and marketing the 4-H program.

This year's workshop will feature a kick-off celebration for Texas 4-H's 100th birthday. In between sessions, participants will be apart of a makeover of the 4-H Center for the next 100 years of 4-H!

The goal of the weekend will be to empower youth with the skills they need to communicate the purpose and progress of the Texas 4-H Program to a variety of audiences through many venues.

The theme is:
"Do It for The Dance"
Cost for the weekend retreat is $110.00 for 4-H'ers and $74.00 for chaperones.

Registration will be conducted on 4-H Connect from Sept. 15-November 9.

Chaperones are required for up to 8 youth of the same gender.

"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."

- Franklin D. Roosevelt

Junior Leadership Retreat

The Texas 4-H Center will be holding the Junior Leadership Retreat November 9-11, 2007 at Lake Brownwood. 4-H members ages 9-13 are invited to attend.

This workshop will focus on basics such as communication skills, leadership, team building, community service, leading recreation, managing groups and more.

Objectives of the workshop are to develop and understanding of styles of leadership, learn and practice communication and public speaking skills, and learn to implement skills in team work and cooperation.

This fun event will be led by Texas 4-H Council members.

The theme is:
"Camp Character- Military Style"
Cost for the weekend retreat is $110.00 for 4-H'ers and $74.00 for chaperones.

Registration will be conducted on 4-H Connect from September 15-November 2.

Chaperones are required for up to 8 youth of the same gender.

STATE FAIR OF TEXAS

2007
State Fair of Texas
September 28-
October 21

Texas Youth Leadership Day is Saturday, September 29. See the Extension office for tickets and a schedule of events. Tickets will be issued on a first come, first serve basis.

The State Fair of Texas is almost here and we will have many of our 4-H members participating in the activities. Artwork, crafts and photographs entered by 4-H'ers will be on display the entire length of the Fair. On certain days some of our 4-H'ers will be participating in baking contests and fashion competitions.

Make a point to check out the Creative Arts Pavilion and look for Rockwall County 4-H participants. Also, while you are visiting our *great* State Fair, be sure and stop by the Livestock pavilions. If you are interested in a livestock project, it is a good idea to observe other 4-H'ers in action!

District IV 4-H Roundup

Nine fabulous contests, 2 fabulous days! It is true! Fall Roundup and Spring Roundup have merged into the District IV 4-H Roundup to be held March 28-29, 2008 at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

Details are still being finalized but we wanted to give you a heads up of the major date change some contests.

If you are new to 4-H, you may be wondering "What is Roundup?"! Roundup is an annual event that allows 4-H'ers to take things they learned in their projects to the next level by competing in contests such as Food Show, Fashion Show, Educational Presentations, Quiz Bowls and more. Details of some of the contests are included in this newsletter.

There will be a county qualifying contest to advance to the District Roundup for some events.

This is a qualifying event for senior 4-H members to advance to the 2008 Texas 4-H Roundup. It will be held June 9-13 on the campus of Texas A&M University in College Station.

Educational Presentations

Educational Presentations involve an individual. The presentation includes posters and/or props or even PowerPoints. You simply tell and show the audience how to do something. It's a lot like Show and Tell! 4-H members can work on something they are interested in and gain new knowledge. They will also learn to plan and organize their thoughts and will develop skills in speaking in front of a group. A packet of helpful information to develop a demonstration or talk is available at the Extension Office. This event was formerly a part of Fall Roundup and will now be a part of the one and only District Roundup. Don't put it off, start now planning a great presentation!

Share the Fun

Share the Fun is a contest that encourages 4-H members to discover and develop their talents. Classes for Share the Fun are Poetry/Prose, Vocal, Musical/Band, Choreographed Routines, Celebrate 4-H. There are specific rules and requirements for each of these classes.

If you are interested in this fun event, call the Extension Office for a Share the Fun packet.

4-H Food & Nutrition Project

During the fall months, the popular Food and Nutrition project is conducted. Volunteer leaders are trained to lead a small group of 4-H members in this fun, short term project. 6 lessons are conducted on food buying, meal planning, healthy lifestyles, kitchen safety, food preparation and nutrition. Preparing good recipes is always part of the meetings.

A packet of curriculum and resources to lead a Food and Nutrition project group is available in the Extension Office. The packet includes fun ideas, visuals and activities for the meetings.

After the lessons, the 4-H'ers may want to participate in the County Food Show! Being in the Food Show is not a requirement but an opportunity of the project. 4-H members can choose to just get together to learn and have fun.

The County Food Show is the qualifying contest for District Roundup.

4-H Field & Stream Family Weekend

October 26-28, 2007
All Saints Camp
Pottsboro, Texas
$90 Youth 5-18
$100 Adults

This is a fun and instructional weekend dedicated to teaching, leaders, volunteers and youth about various projects related to the 4-H Field & Stream program.

Adults can also attend this event to obtain a certification in one of the Shooting Sports disciplines. Cost for this is $175 unless you already have the notebook and then you can deduct $22.

Registration for the weekend includes meals, lodging and training costs.

Complete details of the weekend are available from Shelly at the Extension Office. If you are interested in attending the certification workshop, we will put you in contact with Mike Malone, Club Manager of the Lucky Shamrocks Shooting Sports Club to find out what certifications are needed.

Attention Livestock Project Members!

All 4-H Livestock members intending to house their project animals (beef, sheep, goats, pigs) at the Project Barn must:

- Get approval from the Extension Agent - That's Todd.
- Complete and Sign Project Barn Contract.
- Have parent/guardian signature on Contract.
- Owners of breeding animals must submit $50 per person with barn contract.
- Owners of market animals will have the $50 contract fee deducted for their Youth Fair sale check.

The funds collected support barn upkeep and repair or replacement of large equipment that is broken.

Tenants are expected to provide their own feed storage units and stall cleaning supplies.

Stall requests will be considered on a first come, first served basis.

Check out CBS September 15 to see 4-H make its first ever national commercial premiere. Promoting 4-H, 100 commercials can be seen this year during the TV show Horseland that airs at 10:30 Saturday mornings on CBS 11.

Tell all of your friends!

Horseland is a show about kids and their horses experiencing adventures with themes of friendship, teamwork, acceptance, and compassion similar to the lifeskills youth learn through their participation in 4-H.

visit:
www.fourhcouncil.edu/horseland.aspx

Master Swine Volunteer Training

The Texas 4-H Master Swine Volunteer Training is scheduled for October 26-28, 2007 in Belton at the Bell County Expo Center. The program will begin on Friday, October 26th at 7:00 p.m. with registration, welcome social, and idea sharing.

The program will conclude on Sunday, October 28nd by 2:30 p.m. Cost is $100 before October 12. The registration fee includes meals, refreshments, educational resources, and other program expenses.

This training is for adults only. If you are interested please contact Todd for more info.

Topics covered in the training include:

- Swine industry overview
- Swine health
- Pork quality assurance
- Feeding & Nutrition
- Selection
- Showmanship
- Role of the Master Volunteer

Calf Scramble Opportunity

Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo will begin accepting entries for the 2008 Calf Scramble on October 1. At every rodeo performance during the Houston Livestock Show, 28 students armed with only a halter have the opportunity to catch 14 calves.

Those catching calves are awarded a $1000 scholarship to put toward the purchase of a beef heifer.

If you are interested in the beef heifer project this is an excellent opportunity!

Texas students who have reached their 14th birthday but not yet turned 18 on January 1, 2008 are eligible. If you are eligible and think you might be interested, contact the Extension Office prior to October 1 for more information.

September 1, 2007 kicked off the year-long celebration honoring 100 years of the Texas 4-H Youth and Development program.

Did you know? The first meeting was held by Tom Marks in Jacksboro, Texas. Since then, Texas 4-H grown to a program that has young people in all 254 Texas counties involved in learning life skills, leadership, volunteer service, self confidence and commitment to Country.

As a 4-H member, you join over 640,000 youth in Texas that choose to change their lives, future and future of the state.

Tuesday, October 9, the celebration is traveling to the town where it all started. Everyone is invited to a celebration at the Twin Lakes Activity Center in Jacksboro from 5-7 pm. Dinner will be served. Call the office for directions and RSVP info.

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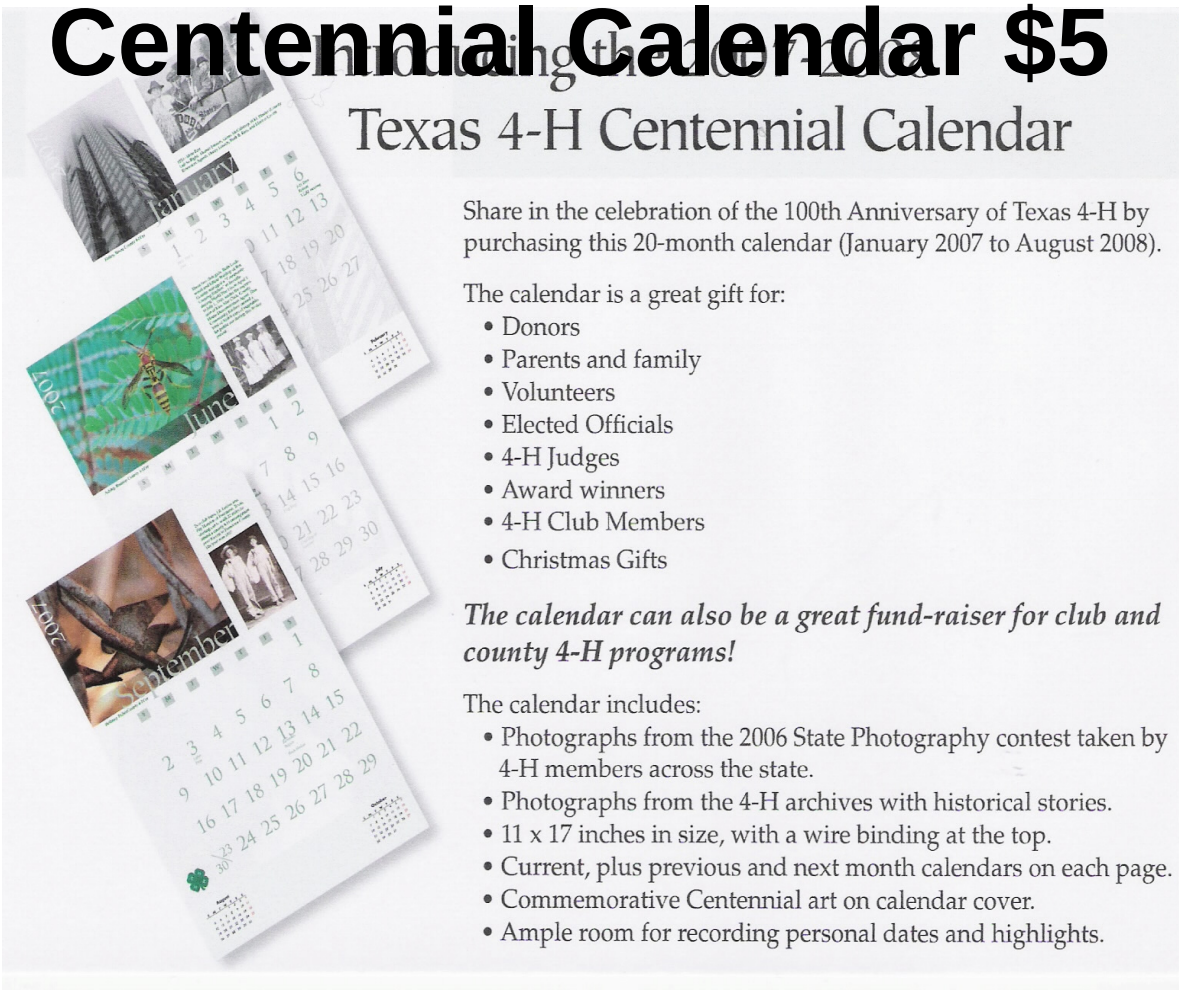
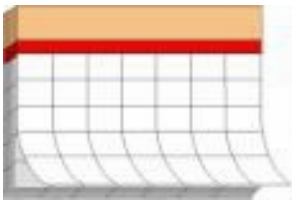
Centennial Calendar $5





Events and Dates!

Major Stock Show Tag orders

Texas 4-H/FFA Swine Validation
Anyone wishing to exhibit a hog at a major winter stock show this year must purchase validation tags by **September 15.**

Cost for the major stock show validation tags will be $10. Tags will only be ordered for those that have paid by the deadline. Any orders after that date will be subject to late fees set by the state office. If you have any questions call the office.

Youth Fair Steer Validation
Steers for Youth Fair will be validated September 25 at The RISD Ag. Center beginning at 6:00 pm. This is an important date if you plan to show a steer at the 2007 Rockwall Youth Fair.

Rockwall County 4-H Council

Rockwall County 4-H Council will hold its first meeting of the year September 18th, 7:00 pm. at the Extension Office. This meeting is for all Club Presidents and Council Delegates. If you are the voting delegates for your club, it is important you are present to vote on behalf of your club and be able to report back to them.

NO PASS, NO PLAY

Do not forget, state 4-H policy abides by UIL regulations for competitions. Before competing in any 4-H event, you have an eligibility form signed by your principal and turned into the office.

TEXAS 4-H RABBIT EXTRAVAGANZA

Bell County Expo Center
Belton, Texas
Saturday,
November 10, 2007
No Rabbits Required!

There are opportunities to include 4-H'ers that don't have rabbit project animals! Youth can participate in arts, photography or other aspects of the Extravaganza including exhibiting rabbits! Please call the office for complete details and catalogue of the different opportunities. Information can also be found on the state 4-H website: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu

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