**4-H Blast**

**October 17, 2016**

* **October 19:** Enrollment and Eligibility Forms due to County Extension Office
* **October 20-22:** Rockdale Fair
* **October 24:** County Food Show Deadline, Call County Extension Office
* **October 25:** Sheep and Goat Validation, 4-6pm, YEB-Cameron
* **October 27:** Heifer Validation, 4-6pm, YEB-Cameron
* **October 31:** Last day to enroll for $20
* **November 2:** County Food Show, 6pm, Bea’s Kitchen
* **November 3:** Major Show Sign Up Night, 4:30-6:30pm, County Extension Office

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

***ATTENTION 4-H MEMBERS AND LEADERS PARTICIPATING IN ROCKDALE FAIR!!!***

* If you plan on participating (as a 4-H member) or helping (as a leader) in this year’s Rockdale Fair, please make sure that your status through 4-H Connect is pending or active by **12:00pm Wednesday, Oct 19th**. If you are helping show a friend’s animal, you must also be an active 4-H member.
* Check your enrollment!!!! If your enrollment is **INCOMPLETE**; this does NOT make it pending or active!!! We have many incomplete enrollments on 4-H Connect right now!
* PLEASE have your exhibitor eligibility forms turned in by **12:00pm Wednesday, Oct 19th** as well.
* If you have entered the Rockdale Fair through 4-H but not participating at the Rockdale Fair after all, please call the Extension Office, 254-697-7045.
* If you have any questions please contact us at the Extension office.

***Rockdale Fair Update:***

Rockdale Fair Home Economic Division Rules are posted on the website! NEW!! Rockdale Fair Home Economics Division activities will be conducted at the George Hill Patterson Community Center in Rockdale. Check-in for the Home Economics Division starts on **Thursday, October 20, 2016** and check out will be **Saturday, October 22, 2016** from 12-1pm along with pictures at 12:30pm. NOTICE: You are not required to buy a ticket to drop off items, view Home Economics items, or pick up items! For rules and entry form, go here: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/rockdale-fair/>

***New 4-H Year:***

The new 4-H year started **September 1st**. To re-enroll or join 4-H, please see our website: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-enrollmentguidelines/> This link will show you the steps to join as well as many important items for the 4-H year! Join us for 4-H fun! You MUST be enrolled on 4-H Connect to participate in ANY 4-H contests or livestock shows!

***Spring Majors: Sheep, Goat, and Heifer Validation:***

Validation for Spring Major Stock Shows: *Fort Worth, Odessa, San Antonio, San Angelo, Houston, and Austin*.

* **Sheep & Goat Validation:** Tuesday, **October 25, 2016**. 4:00–6:00 Youth Expo Building in Cameron.
* **Heifer Validation:** Thursday, **October 27, 2016**. 4:00–6:00pm Youth Expo Building in Cameron.

**These will be the only validation dates for Spring Majors.** Can’t make it? You need to come by the Extension office and fill out paperwork. This must be done by **Monday, October 24, 2016** or animal cannot be validated. If you have any questions at all, please contact the Extension office.

***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

***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)

Coming Soon:

County Food Show: **November 2nd**, 6pm, Bea’s Kitchen, Deadline to register: **October 24th**

OPEN TO: CLOVER KIDS: K-2 GRADE, JUNIOR: 3-5 GRADE, INTERMEDIATE: 6-8 GRADE, SENIOR: 9-12 GRADE

CATEGORIES TO ENTER: Protein, Fruits and Vegetables, Grains, Dairy

New This Year! Jr, Int, Sr 1st place winners advance to district! District- Dec 7th

FYI: All 4-H members will have to prepare their dish and do an interview in front of judges! (Not hard at all!) For more information, please see the website: <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/projects/food-and-nutrition-project/>

Major Show Sign Up Night: The 2017 Spring Major Show season is not far off and sign-up dates have been set. We will only have 1 day for sign-up; **Thursday, November 3rd** at the Extension Office, 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Please call the Office if you have questions. 4-H members must obtain Quality Counts verification online before being allowed to enter major shows!

Holiday Classic: The clinic is **November 5-6, 2016** at the Bell County Expo. It is FREE!!!! Open to all youth in grades 3-12th. Please see the 4-H AG website for more information! The Holiday Classic Clinics and Prospect Shows are intended to provide an educational opportunity for new families participating in the livestock project area. The main purpose is to teach the basic principles of livestock management as they relate to facilitiy maintenance, selection, nutrition, animal health, handling, showmanship, and transportation. <http://counties.agrilife.org/mc4h/4-h-livestock-projects/>

Junior Leadership Retreat is coming to the Texas 4-H Center at Lake Brownwood! Junior Leadership Retreat is designed to teach kids between the ages of 8 and 14 to lead. All programming is led by members of the Texas Council. Sessions include Dance Culture, STEM Lab, Food Challenge, Recreation, and Leadership. This year's theme is Under the Sea.

Cost is $120 and includes lodging and meals for the weekend. Sign up by going to texas4hcenter.tamu.edu.

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