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December 2008



Office Website

<http://bexar-tx.tamu.edu/4H>

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Leadership, Citizenship and Life Skills

There are a few words that have recently become very prevalent in the media and other venues throughout society both nationally and internationally, they are: *change*, *economy* and *go-green*.

Change is the process of becoming different.

Economy refers to a system of production, exchange, distribution, and consumption of the goods and services of a local, regional, national and/or international entity.

“Go-Green” is a program or movement working to create a culture of environmental responsibility throughout the United States and the world.

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills that enable them to embrace *change*, *economic challenge* and *going-green*.

Leadership refers to traits, behavior, interaction and influence over a group of people to move towards goal setting or goal achievement. One example of leadership is (*change*) the process of becoming different, “*making the best better*”.

Citizenship may imply membership in a community and/or the quality of an individual's response and responsibility to that community in the way that person behaves toward other people. Working to create a culture of environmental responsibility on a national or international scale (*go-green*) contributes . . .”*to better living for community, country and the world*”.

Life-Skills are abilities necessary for successful living such as: self, family, job, community, leisure, and spirituality. 4-H programs are designed to give youth the ability to cook, do simple repairs, deal with minor emergencies, have financial awareness, and a good understanding of the (*economy*) impact of *agriculture, science, engineering and technology* on business.

QUOTE THIS MONTH

“Socialism failed because it couldn't tell the economic truth: capitalism may

DATES HAVE BEEN SET



- Vet Science Workshop 12/1
- District Roundup. 12/6
- Horse Leaders Mtg. 12/15
- Finance Task Force Mtg. . . . 12/18
- Vet Science Workshop 1/5
- Council/Adult Mtg. 1/15
- School Tour Trg. 1/22 or 1/29
- Scholarship DUE 2/4
- Youth Day 2/7

The goal of 4-H is to provide quality, relevant outreach and continuing education programs and services to the people of Texas.

fail because it couldn't tell the ecological truth." Lester Brown, Fortune Brainstorm Conference, 2006

Newsletter Information

When we compile the newsletter articles, we have room for only the basic information. There is no way we could put all the detailed information on each article or the newsletter would be 20 pages long. We want to make the newsletter as informative as possible, but not too lengthy. If you need more information or have any questions on any article, please give our office a call.

HERE'S THE LATEST

Welcome New 4-H Club

There are several new 4-H clubs this year, let's welcome: Fabulous Flowers, Creative Cardinals, Green Team, Super Women, Art Club, Interior Design, and Community Service.

Council/Adult Leaders Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 15

Place: TBA

Time: 7 p.m.

This will be a very important meeting. The annual County Council budget will be voted on and approved at this meeting. Club delegates will discuss budget line items and vote to approve the budget for the year. Club delegates, mark your calendar to attend this important meeting and represent your club. The future meeting date is April 16.

Chocolate Sale Is Over!

Prize winners will be listed on the web by December 3rd. CONGRATULATIONS! If you won a prize, you must write a thank you note to your donor and return it to our office before you can receive your prize. Your club manager has a list of donors with addresses. Writing thank you notes shows your appreciation to the donor and will help us when asking for future donations. All prizes not picked up by December 22nd will be forfeited by the winner.

Attention Adult Leaders-Reimbursement Available!

Are you a 4-H Adult Leader who paid to attend a project training this year and have used this training to reach others? If so, you are eligible to be reimbursed for part of the cost through Bexar County 4-H Council budget, which is made possible from the Chocolate Sales. Money budgeted will be divided by the number of people who attended training sessions.

We need your receipt from your training and a record of how you used it to benefit other 4-H members. Please turn this information in to our office by Monday, December 1st.

Council & Club Delegate Officers Christmas Party

This year's party is at Laser Quest on Thursday, December 11 at 6:30 p.m. If you are the Club Delegate for your club, you are invited to attend this party. Your Club Manager has been sent the invitation by email and was asked to share the information with you. The cost is \$6.00 per person which includes two games and a meal. Please send in your reservation form and money to Pam by Friday, Dec. 8.

4-H Materials

For a successful 4-H year ALL 4-H families should have the following handouts:

- ☺ Newcomer's Handbook -on the 4-H website
- 📁 Awards and Recognition Handbook -on the 4-H website
- 📁 Recordbook Information -on the 4-H website

At the Club Manager training in August, each Club Manager was given a CD with the above materials. Please contact your Club Manager for a copy of the CD.

Finance Task Force Planning Meeting

Date: Thursday, December 18th

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: County Extension Office S-208

Chocolate sales are over and it is time to plan the new budget. The 2009 County Council 4-H budget will be presented for approval at the January 2009 4-H Council meeting. The Finance Task Force will meet to review the budget and put together a proposed budget for approval in January. You are invited to attend and offer any concerns and suggestions. If you cannot attend, questions, concerns and requests are to be submitted in writing to our office by Thursday, December 11.

Volunteer Leaders As Role Models

Please remember that as 4-H volunteer adult leaders and mentors, we have a responsibility as role models to our youth. Use of alcohol, drugs, or any illegal substance while supervising youth is reason for immediate dismissal. A volunteer who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or is not using reasonable and good judgement, may be held liable if an accident happens or may be subject to dismissal.

Texas 4-H Clover Handbook

The Clover Handbook is a great informational handbook about 4-H projects and opportunities. It is available on our website.

Clarification On Event Entry & Eligibility Forms

We would like to clarify between event entry forms and eligibility forms.....event entry forms and paperwork (ie: stock shows, food shows, fashion shows, round-ups, etc...) vary in nature, depending on the event. They have strict deadlines and will **not** be extended.

1-Events have entry forms to allow us to prepare for the event,

4-H OFFICE POLICIES, 4-H ELIGIBILITY & INFORMATION

Office Procedures

All visitors must check in with the receptionist. Our office hours are Monday-Friday 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. **Lunch is noon 'til 1 p.m.** If you are planning to visit our office during the lunch time, call in advance so that your information will be ready for you.

Night Drop Slot

To help you meet deadlines, there is a night drop slot in the front door of our office. An 11"x13" envelope will fit through the slot.

Deadlines

Due dates and times are important. Our due dates are decided upon according to District and State due dates. Deadlines will be according to office hours 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.** If you mail your forms, entries, etc, it is **your** responsibility to verify that we received it. Please read the newsletter and mark your calendar for due dates. There is a drop slot in the front door. An 11"x13" envelope will fit through it. You can use this drop slot to help you meet deadlines. Best yet-beat the rush and turn in information early!

Code of Conduct Policy

To participate in Bexar County 4-H events you must comply with the Code of Conduct you signed on your enrollment form. Bexar County 4-H Council budget offers reimbursements on many activities contingent on the Code of Conduct being followed. This policy is for members and leaders alike.

Making Copies

If you need a copy of a form for your file, please make copies before turning forms into our office.

buy ribbons, seek judges. This entry form is a contest specific form. Deadline will be extended.

2-To participate in an event as a 4-H member during the time school is in session (i.e. August to graduation date) an eligibility form is required by the State of Texas House Bill "no pass, no play".

On several events, we ask that all forms be turned in at the same time so that we can have time to review them before the event....**but** we also understand that since we have so many different grading periods in schools and districts, that some eligibility forms do not get signed by the due date. We will work with you and your school, so if you are having trouble getting eligibility forms to us, please call to let us know and we will work with you.

You **will not** be able to participate in the event if we do not receive the eligibility form before the event. We hope this helps. If you have any further questions about this, please let us know.

We do our best to send eligibility forms to members, but the ultimate responsibility for getting a form, having it completed and returned to our office is the members! **If you are a 4-H member, entered into any event or contest during the school year, you need an eligibility form to participate - No Exceptions.**

LEARN AND HAVE FUN TOO!!!!

National 4-H Conference

Date: March 28-April 2
Place: National 4-H Center, Washington D.C.
Cost: \$1,250 (Lodging, airfare, meals)
Age: 15 - 19 years
Deadline: December 5 on 4-H Connect

This conference assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development Programs. This conference brings together 4-H members across the United States. For detailed information and an application visit <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/natconference/index.html>.

Veterinary Science Workshop

Date: Monday, Dec. 1, Jan. 5

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: TBA

This workshop is a learning series to help youth meet their required learning lessons in the veterinary science project. For more information on the lessons and location of the workshops, contact swellsutff@gmail.com.

Teen Retreat

Date: Jan. 9-11

Place: Texas 4-H Conference Center, Brownwood

This retreat is for members ages 14-19. The focus is to develop leadership skills through workshops and hands-on learning experiences. Registration is on 4-H Connect by Dec. 30. Cost is \$123 which includes 2 nights lodging, 4 meals, snacks and program supplies.

District Photography Workshop

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 30

Time: 9 - 12 noon

Place: Majestic Ranch Arts, Boerne

Cost: \$5

Learn how to make Pin Hole cameras, develop photos in a dark room and much more. RSVP by Dec. 15 to Angela at 830/249-9343.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

County Consumer Decision Making Contest

Date: TBA

Contact Grace for final details.

What is it? The consumer project will help you learn how to choose the best of product of a better value no matter what you are buying. Study guides are available from our office, contact Grace. If you are interested in entering this contest, you must register by filling out the enclosed registration form. This form is due to our office by Feb.13.

District Clothing & Textiles Workshop

Date: Monday, Dec. 29

Place: Guadalupe County Extension office

Time: 9 a.m.

Cost: \$10 (lunch and materials)

Have fun and learn new clothing skills to include jewelry making, pin cushions, baby blankets and more.. Please RSVP to s-schramm@tamu.edu by Dec. 1.

ROUNDUP - EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS & PUBLIC SPEAKING

District 4-H Roundup Contest

Date: Saturday, Dec. 6

Place: San Marcos

DUE: November 20, on 4-H Connect

If you missed the County Roundup Contest on November 1, that's OK, you can participate at District Roundup. Registration packets are available from our office. Contact Pam for a packet.

SCHOLARSHIPS

2008-2009 Roundup Guide

(Educational Presentations and Public Speaking)

Anything you want to know about Roundup is in this guide. The guide will be available early October. You can print one from the Texas 4-H website at <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/roundup> or from our website.

4-H Opportunity Scholarship

Approximately 200 scholarships ranging in amount of \$1500 to \$15,000 will be awarded to Texas 4-H members. Applications are available on our website or on the Texas 4-H website <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/youth/scholarship.html#DARE>. Scholarships are due to our office by **Wednesday, February 4th**, by 5 p.m. for signatures, verification of materials and for mailing to meet our District office deadline. **Start your application now! There is a financial form that requires a process which takes 3-4 weeks to receive the completed results back. Don't forget to take the SAT or ACT tests soon. Test scores are a requirement to be included with your application.**

Collegiate 4-H Scholarship

Students currently enrolled in a Texas college or university and will have successfully completed a minimum of 30 semester hours of college course work will be eligible to apply for this scholarship. Applications and requirements are available on our website or on the Texas 4-H website at <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/youth/scholarship.html#DARE>.

Many of our members show animals, and many also participate in the other wonderful events the stock show has to offer. Review the following list of upcoming events and plan to have your club join in.

FUN /

Photography Contest - February 7

You can enter black and white or color categories. Your Club Manager has been sent the information and entry form. Entry form is due to our office by December 19.

Wagons and Wheelbarrows Parade - February 7

Decorate your red wagon or wheelbarrow, and enter it into the parade. Your Club Manager has been sent guidelines and entry form. Form is due to our office by December 19.

Youth Country Fair - Baking Contest - February 7

Enter your favorite pie, cake, cookies, candies and bread in this contest. Entry form and information will be sent to your Club Manager mid December. Deadline to the stock show is mid January TBA. Watch your next newsletter for final due date.

Fashion Show - February 7

If you are interested in showing off your sewn garment, enter the Fashion Show. Your Club Manager has been sent information and entry form. Entry form is due to SALE by January 16.

Bexar County Junior Livestock Show Scholarship

The BCJLS will award scholarships this year. Applications and criteria are available on their website at http://bcjls.com/Rules/BC_%20Scholarship_%2008-09.pdf

Youth Day is a wonderful opportunity to showcase what 4-H has to offer. Your club can set up a table to do hands-on activities, project exhibits or crafts. If your club is interested in participating in Youth Day, get with your Club Manager and plan what activity you would like to do. Entry form and information will be sent to your Club Manager in early December. Entry form is due to our office by December 19.

Youth Day - February 7

Texas Experience Tent @ the Rodeo...We Need Volunteers!!

4-H has been invited to have a booth in the Texas Experience Tent. Last year our exhibit was seen by over 100,000 people. Those of you who manned the booth last year raved about the fun you had. Sign up sheets will be available soon. Watch your next newsletter for more information and shift times.

School Tours

We have not received final confirmation from SALE on tour dates. Mark your calendar to attend the School Tour Guide training on either Jan. 22 or Jan. 29.

Horse Leaders Meeting

Date: Monday, Dec. 15, Feb. 23, Mar. 30

Place: County Extension office

Time: 7:00 .p.m.

These meetings are to plan upcoming horsemanship activities. Adults and members interested in the horse program are invited to attend.

Qualifying Horse Shows

There will be three (3) qualifying shows this year:

- 1) January 2, 2009 - Bexar County Junior Livestock Show
 - 2) March 21, 2009 - Sheriffs Posse Arena
 - 3) April 4 2009 - Sheriffs Posse Arena
- Raindate - April 25, 2009

You must attend at least one of these shows to be eligible for the district contest and end of the year awards. March and April are open to anyone that would like to attend.

Horse Judging Contests

The qualifying contests for district are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Heart of Texas - Oct. 4 | Johnson County - Jan. 17 |
| Ft. Bend - Dec. 13 | Montgomery County - Jan. 3 |
| Ft. Worth - Feb. 7 | SALE - Feb. 12 |

Each participant can judge at all events or a minimum of two (2) and the average of the two (2) highest scores will be the qualifying score. If you need information on any of these contests, contact Annette.

Seniors must attend 2 shows that provide reasons.

Horse Information

What to know more about the 4-H Horse Program visit <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/index.html> or go to http://animalscience.tamu.edu/main/academics/equine/cea_newsletter.html. The Sept.- Dec. 2008 CEA Horse Newsletter is posted to the web with many workshop opportunities, check it out.

Major Stock Show Eligibility Forms

LIVESTOCK NEWS

Forms for major shows (Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Houston, San Angelo, Star of Texas) will be sent in December. If you are exhibiting at any of these shows, watch your mail for a yellow eligibility form.

Bexar County Junior Livestock Show



If you need a copy of the 2009 Bexar County Junior Livestock Show Rules visit their website at www.bcjls.com.

Bexar County Junior Livestock Show Eligibility Forms.....

Eligibility forms will **NOT** be sent this year. Members are on holiday and are eligible during this holiday week.

No Pass, No Play for Major Stock Shows

Reminder, No Pass, No Show....If you are academically ineligible to exhibit, your livestock projects are ineligible as well.

Validations

Validation was held in October and November. Now that validation is complete, please check your paperwork and make sure the ear notches are correct. If you lose a validation tag, call Jerry ASAP in order to get it replaced by show time. Your steer, pig, goat or lamb must have a validation tag to exhibit at the stock shows.

Livestock Judging Team Qualifications

To be selected for the Senior, Intermediate and Junior teams for District 10 Livestock Judging contests, the following are optional events for 2008-2009:

Guadalupe County-Oct. 4

Aggie Fest-Oct. 25

Bexar County-Jan. 2

Due: Jan. 2

Nueces County-Jan. 16
S.A.L.E.-Feb. 22
Houston-Mar. 18
Victoria-Mar. TBA

Due: Jan. 16

Due: Feb. TBA

livestock projects. Contact our local office at 210/472-6748.

Club Managers receive updates once a week on all 4-H happening. Contact your Club Manager for updated information.

To be eligible to be on the district team, you must participant in at least two (2) of the contests and the average of the two (2) highest scores will be the qualifying score. All contest scores must be sent to the County Extension office. There is a great website that has Livestock Judging publications for your use at <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/main/youth/pubs.html>.

Stock Shows

Please visit the stock shows website for up to date information.

Dates have been set for these stock shows:

2009 Bexar County Junior Livestock Show - Dec. 30-Jan. 3 2009

www.bcjls.com

2009 Ft. Worth Stock Show & Rodeo - Jan. 16 - Feb. 8, 2009

www.fwssr.com

2009 Walter Gerlach Show - Jan. 26 - 31, 2009

2009 San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo - Feb. 5 - 22, 2009

www.sarodeo.com

2009 San Angelo Stock Show - February 19- Mar. -1, 2009

www.sanangeorodeo.com

2009 Houston Stock Show & Rodeo - March 3 - 22, 2009

www.rodeohouston.com

2009 Star of Texas Stock Show & Rodeo - March 13 - 26, 2009

www.staroftexas.org

Please mark these dates on your calendar.

Prospect Shows

-Dimmit County Classic (Steer, Heifer, Swine, Lamb, Goat) Dec. 6-7. Due Nov. 19. Contact Richie 830/876-4216.

-Jack County Pig & Goat Show Dec. 6. Contact Heath 940/567-2132.

-Cowboy Classic Goat & Lamb Show Dec. 13. Contact Mark 830/569-3323.

-Cowboy Capital Lamb Classic Dec. 13. Due: Dec. 6. Contact Michael 830/796-1437.

Rabbit Tattoo Dates

Tattoo dates are set for Monday, Dec. 1 at East Central, Tuesday, Dec. 2 at Madison and Wednesday, Dec. 3 at the Helotes 4-H Activity Center.

Farm Service Agency Rural Youth Loans

These loans are available for youth ages 10-20 to finance their

The Extension Staff wishes you...



Happy Holidays!



Be Safe and See Ya' Next Year.....

Special thanks to all the volunteers that make our programs and activities a great experience for our Bexar County youth.