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Office Website

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

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Ethics in Competition

In July of 2004 Lance Armstrong won his sixth Tour de France. During that competition an incident occurred that raised questions about what's appropriate or ethical.

By the 18th stage of the 20 stage Tour de France it was evident that Lance Armstrong was well on his way to his sixth consecutive victory. Filippo Simeoni another cyclist in the Tour de France (that Lance Armstrong has been having an ongoing dispute with, stemming from Filippo accusing Lance of blood doping) decided he would try to win at least one stage of the race. It appears that Lance had no problem with anyone other than Filippo winning a single stage of the race so long as it did not jeopardize his overall victory.

When Lance saw Filippo try to break away, Lance easily caught up to him and the other cyclists breaking away. Lance told two of the cyclist that if they didn't drop Filippo from their break away group he would go all out to win the 18th stage knowing they could not compete with him. Lance's direct competition with the break away group would have caused the main pack of riders to also catch up with the break away group and thus deny them a day in the spotlight. The other break away cyclists persuaded Filippo to give up his quest to win the 18th stage. Reluctantly, Filippo dropped back and so did Lance.

Filippo Simeoni later called Lance Armstrong's tactics to deny him the chance for a little glory in the Tour de France a sin. Do you think Lance Armstrong's actions were appropriate and/or ethical? What is the distinction between appropriate and ethical?

Aristotle's Ethics; we employ ethics in order to improve our lives, and therefore its principal concern is the nature of *human well-being*. In order to live well, we must acquire, through practice, those deliberative, emotional, and social skills that enable us to put our general understanding of well-being into practice in ways that are suitable to each occasion.

Ethical behavior is imperative in 4-H competition and validates the 4-H pledge; "...clearer thinking ...greater loyalty...larger service...better living".

QUOTE THIS MONTH

"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending" Maria Robinson

DATES HAVE BEEN SET



- Vet Science Workshop 1/5
- Council/Adult Mtg. 1/15
- School Tour Trg. 1/22 or 1/29
- Spurs Night 1/23
- Scholarship DUE 2/4
- Youth Day 2/7
- Horse Leaders Mtg. 2/23
- County Photo Contest 3/25

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

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

Council/Adult Leaders Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 15

Place: Ft. Sam Houston School Age Services Bldg. 1705

Time: 7 p.m.

This will be a very important meeting and start promptly at 7 p.m. due to a full agenda. All Club Delegates should attend this important meeting to vote on the 2009 budget. A copy of the budget will be sent to your Club Manager for your review. Club delegates will discuss budget line items and vote to approve the budget for the year. Every club should have two (2) delegates, if your club has only one (1) delegate, the other delegate position defaults to the President of your club. If neither of these positions can attend the council meeting to vote, a substitute can vote with a written note from the elected club delegate. Club delegates, mark your calendar to attend this important meeting and represent your club. All adult leaders and/or parents are welcome to attend the Adult Leaders meeting. Map to Ft. Sam Houston School Age Service Bldg. 1705 is on our website at <http://bexar-tx.tamu.edu/4H/Maps/FtSamHoustonSchoolAgeServices.pdf>. The next Council/Adult Leaders meeting is April 16.

Updates & Reminders

Every Friday we send Club Managers an email with Updates & Reminders. The email includes reminders about due dates, information that was received after the newsletter was posted and much more. We are now posting these Updates & Reminders on the 4-H web page at <http://bexar-tx.tamu.edu/4H/index.htm>. Now, you can also keep updated by visiting this page.

4-H Night with the Spurs

Date: Friday, January 23, 7:30 p.m.

Spurs vs the Nets

4-H package includes your ticket with a free hotdog, soda and chips. Deadline to order tickets is Jan. 14 at a first come, first serve basis, tickets will go fast at this special. Check out the flyer with complete details on our website at <http://bexar-tx.tamu.edu/4H/New/Spurs%204-H%20Night%20Jan%202009.pdf>. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

Project Forms

Lots of activities are coming up that you could keep record on using your Project Record Form. Vet Science Workshop, Community Service activities, stock shows and more. Get started now by completing a project form for every activity you participate in. If you need a copy of the project form ask your club manager or visit the 4-H website at <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/publications/index.html#Record>.

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.

Good Luck to our 4-H'ers exhibiting at the Bexar County Junior Livestock Show.

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

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.

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, 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!!!!

Beekeeping Essay Contest

The topic is "The Dance Language of Bees". Your essay must be at least 750 words. Top three placing receive cash awards. Essay is due to A&M by January 31. For rules and application contact Pam.

Children's Vegetable Garden Program

Date: February 21 - June 6 (Saturdays)
Place: San Antonio Botanical Garden
Cost: \$10

Children ages 8-13 have fun growing their own vegetables and/or flowers. For more information and an application contact Angel at 467-6575. Application is due by Feb. 15.

Veterinary Science Workshop

Date: Monday, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 2, Apr. 6, May 4
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.

County Photography Contest

Do you like to take pictures??? Then you should enter this year's County 4-H Photography contest. If you are thinking of entering the contest, this is the time to start taking pictures. Photos must have been taken by 4-H members between the dates of January 1, 2008 and March 18, 2009. Your Club Manager has been sent rules and guidelines on the divisions that you can enter and is also posted on the 4-H website. Photo's are due to our office by March 25. **(NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED).**

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 .

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.

Clothing Resources On-Line

There are two very educational Clothing and Textiles curriculum on line, "Clothes that Click" and Clothing Capers". For more information, visit the State 4-H website at http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/clothing_textiles.html and print chapters that you would like to share with your members.

SCHOLARSHIPS

4-H Opportunity Scholarship

Approximately 200 scholarships ranging in amount of \$1,500 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>.

Texas Extension Education Association Scholarship

The Texas Extension Education Association is offering a \$1,000 scholarship in each district. The application is a recordbook. Criteria: be in 3rd year of 4-H, leadership and personal development through 4-H, have not received a EEA scholarship. For more information contact Connie Sheppard. Due to our office by Feb. 10.

FUN AT THE SAN ANTONIO STOCK SHOW

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.

Photography Contest - February 7

You can enter black and white or color categories. Your Club Manager has been sent the rules and guidelines.

Wagons and Wheelbarrows Parade - February 7

Decorate your red wagon or wheelbarrow, and enter it into the parade. Your Club Manager has been sent rules and guidelines.

Youth Country Fair - Baking Contest - February 7

Enter your favorite pie, cake, cookies, candies and bread in this contest. Entry form, guidelines and entry form have been sent to your Club Manager. Deadline to enter is January 16. DO NOT SEND ENTRY FORM TO OUR OFFICE.

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.

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 playing games and talking with visitors. Sign up sheets are available now. Call Pam to reserve your shift. Shifts are Monday - Friday (morning is optional), evening 4 - 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. or 1 - 5 p.m. or 5 -9 p.m. (Sat.) 5 -8 p.m. (Sun.).

School Tours

New tour guides must attend a School Tour Guide training on either Jan. 22 or Jan. 29, 7 p.m. at the 4-H office in S-208. If you have never been a tour guide through 4-H, mark your calendar to attend one of these trainings. Don't forget, you must be academically eligible to be a tour guide.

HORSE NEWS

Horse Leaders Meeting

Date: Monday, 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.

LIVESTOCK NEWS

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.

Walter Gerlach & Major Show Eligibility Forms

Walter Gerlach and major stock show (Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Houston, San Angelo, Star of Texas) eligibility forms will be mailed soon. If you signed up to exhibit at any of these stock shows and HAVE NOT received your yellow eligibility form, please contact Annette ASAP.

Ft. Worth-Jan.12	Walter Gerlach-Jan. 20
San Antonio-Jan. 27	San Angelo-Feb. 13
Houston-Feb. 24	Star of Texas-Mar. 3

If you are exhibiting at any of these shows, watch your mail for a yellow eligibility form.

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	Due: Jan. 16
S.A.L.E.-Feb. 22	
Houston-Mar. 18	
Victoria-Mar. TBA	Due: Feb. TBA

To be eligible to be on the district team, you must participate 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>.

Montgomery County Dog Show

Date: Saturday, Feb. 7
Place: Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Conroe
DUE: Jan. 24

For entry form and more information contact Annette.

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.

Farm Service Agency Rural Youth Loans

These loans are available for youth ages 10-20 to finance their livestock projects. Contact our local office at 210/472-6748.

OUTDOOR FUN

Outdoor Activities

Want to plan an outdoor activity - need some ideas call Greg.

Fishing Equipment Available

We have limited fishing equipment for check out, if your club wants to have a "fishy" event, contact Greg.

Shooting Sports Website

If you need any information on any shooting sports contests or events visit <http://shootingsports.tamu.edu>.

