Office Closed
Our office will be closed on Monday, Feb. 17th in observance of Presidents Day. If you are trying to meet a deadline, please use the drop slot in the front door.

Contact Our Agent
For the next couple of weeks, Greg will be in and out of the office attending stock shows. He will be carrying a county cell phone that you can reach him at any time you have any questions. The number is 210/417-7252.

Public Speaking Workshops
Can you believe that the County Roundup Contest (Public Speaking) is coming up in March. Join us for a Public Speaking workshop for the next couple of weeks to prepare a presentation for Roundup. We will meet on Saturdays at 3:30 p.m. in S-208 at the Extension Office. Plan for the class to go about 2 hours. It is not too late to join us—handouts on public speaking will be available at each workshop. We will be going over outlines and speech topics. Mark your calendar for **Saturday, Feb. 15**th. Future meetings will be Feb. 22nd, Mar. 1st, Mar. 8th, Mar. 15th and Mar. 29th. Please call Betsy if you have any questions at 210-386-8482.

Texas Extension Education Association (TEEA) 4-H Scholarship
Twelve $1,000 scholarships are available for graduating seniors. 4-H applicants must meet eligibility requirements. Application is a Texas 4-H Recordbook and a TEEA 4-H Scholarship Application form. Eligibility requirements and TEEA 4-H Scholarship Application form are attached. Recordbook and application are due to our office by **Feb. 15**th. If you have any questions, please contact Connie at 210/467-6578 or csheppard@ag.tamu.edu.

Entomology Judging Workshop
Did you know that insects are extremely diverse and make up more than half of the species on earth? Are you interested in learning about insects? All ages are welcome to join us and be a part of the Entomology Judging Team. Next meeting is **Sunday, Feb. 16th.** 2 p.m. at the 4-H office S-208. Future meeting is Mar. 2nd. If you have any questions you can contact Molly at mekeck@ag.tamu.edu.

Camp Corral
This summer camp is for children ages 8 – 15 of wounded or disabled military families. Camp Corral is a place where kids are free to be kids, apart from the day-to-day challenges they may face as children of wounded or disabled military families. Activities include: swimming, hiking, target sports, ropes course, arts and crafts and more. Thanks to the generosity of Golden Corral, Camp Corral is available at no cost other than transportation to and from camp. Registration begins on **Feb. 15th - April 15th**. See attached flyer for more information.

Texas 4-H Robotics
If you are interested in Robotics mark your calendar for some upcoming webinars and workshops. Webinar is scheduled for **Monday, Feb. 17**th at 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Workshop is scheduled for **Saturday, March 1**st, at the Texas A&M Center in Dallas, $10 per person. See attached flyer for links to webinars and more information about the workshop.

Dog Trainings
The Bexar County Dog Squad is a competitive 4-H dog club that focuses on learning all aspects of dog care and training with the emphasis on competing at the State Dog Show in July. All 4-H members with any type of dog are welcome to join. Next class is **Monday, Feb. 17**th at the San Antonio Pets Alive, Paul Jolly Center Petco Pavillion, 210 Tuleta Dr., SA, TX. 78212 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. **All dogs must be
current on Bordatella, DHLPP, and Rabies vaccines and will not be permitted to attend without written proof. No exceptions. A large bag of dog food for a one time donation is the only cost for attending the trainings for the whole year. Future trainings are Feb. 24, Marc. 3, Mar. 10, Mar. 17, Mar. 24 and Mar. 31. Call Laura Stewart (210-326-9406) for updates on weather issues and classes.

Dog Agility Classes
Dog agility classes will be open to all dogs older than 8 months. What is Agility? Running a dog in an agility trial is the ultimate game for you and your dog and is one of the most exciting canine sports for spectators. In an agility trial, a dog demonstrates its agile nature and versatility by following cues from the handler through a timed obstacle course of jumps, tunnels, weave poles and other objects. We will meet at Karen Dahle's house in Schertz every Tuesday until July. Next class is Tuesday, Feb. 18th. From 5 p.m. to about 8 p.m. Classes are a one time fee of $30 to cover the cost of the electricity for the 4-H year. Any size or breed of dog can participate in agility. No minimum/maximum age on the handler. Future classes are Feb. 25th, Mar. 4th, Mar. 11th, Mar. 18th and Mar. 25th. For more information please call Karen Dahle at 210-383-7811 after 6 pm during the week and anytime on the weekend.

Bexar County 4-H Ambassador Program
The primary goal of the Bexar County 4-H Ambassador Program is building communication skills to be utilized in an advocacy role for the Bexar County 4-H Program.

ELIGIBILITY:
Youth 14 - 18 years of age in the year serving
Enrolled as a Bexar County 4-H member.
Must be an active member of 4-H, either independent or with a club for at least one full year prior to application.

Guidelines and application are attached. Application is due to our office by Wednesday, Feb. 19th. You are welcome to mail (3355 Cherry Ridge, S-212, SA, Tx. 78230) or use the drop slot or scan and email to gmyles@ag.tamu.edu. You must also be available for an interview on Tuesday, Feb. 25th in the evening.

Master Gardener Class
The Master Gardener program provides invaluable training and educational opportunities. Individuals can advance their gardening expertise, plus gain self-satisfaction through volunteer efforts. The volunteer aspect of the Master Gardener program allows individuals to dedicate their time and talents to enhancing the quality of life for citizens of their community using the science and art of horticulture. Registration fee is $250 payable on the first day of class, for more information call Angel at 210 467-6575. Deadline is Feb. 21st.

East Central Livestock Judging Contest
If you are interested in Livestock Judging, mark your calendar for Saturday, Feb. 22nd, at the East Central Show Barn. Check in is 1:30 p.m., contest begins at 2:30 p.m. See attached flyer for more details. Cost is $10 if you pre-register and $15 the day of the contest.

Archery and Shotgun Coaches Training
Training will be in San Angelo, the Tom Green County 4-H Building, 3168 North US Hwy 67, on March 8th – 9th, 2014. Registration will be done through 4-H Connect (District 7 Archery and Shotgun Coaches Training) through February 24th. Cost is $120. Registration will cover meals and course materials. Lodging will not be provided for registrants.
Shooting Sports Coaches Training for Archery, Rifle, Pistol, and Shotgun
A Shooting Sports Coaches training is available in Stephenville (Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 1229 N US Hwy 281, Stephenville, TX 76401) on March 8th – 9th. Registration will be done on 4-H Connect through Feb. 24. Look for District 8 – Archery, Rifle, and Pistol Coaches Training. Cost is $120 which covers meals and course materials. Lodging will not be provided for registrants. Adult leaders MUST have completed and passed the 4-H Background Check PRIOR to registering for the event.

Insect Expo
The Southwestern Branch Entomological Society of America in conjunction with entomologists, extension specialists, and Master Gardeners present: Insect Expo 2014. This is a free, activity-oriented learning experience for third - fifth graders. Students will be given opportunities to interact with professional entomologists as they participate in a wide variety of lessons and activities designed to educate about the most numerous, widespread, and diverse group of organisms on earth: Insects!
• Experience interactive exhibits and demonstrations
• See and touch the live insect petting zoo
• Study insect life cycles
• And so much more!

This event is free! This event will be held Monday, Feb. 24th, at the El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio. Groups will be scheduled for a 2–hour tour of more than a dozen educational stations. Participation is limited, reservations are made on a first-come-first-served basis by email. Please register with the coordinator Andrine Shufran, Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, at andrine@okstate.edu to reserve your space today. Upon confirmation of your attendance further information will be forwarded. There will not be any facilities for eating lunch, so please make arrangements to have lunch prior to your arrival or after your departure. For more information, see attached flyer.

Horse Leaders Meeting
If you are interested in helping to plan upcoming horse shows or workshops, this is the meeting to attend. Mark your calendar for the next meeting, Monday, Feb. 24th, 7 p.m. at our office in S-208. Future meeting date is to be announced.

4-H Prairie View Scholarship
The San Antonio Livestock Exposition (S.A.L.E.) and the Cooperative Extension Program (C.E.P.) will award two (2) four - year scholarships, each with a total value of $15,000 for four years. These scholarships will be awarded to outstanding students who are seeking a Bachelor of Science degree at Prairie View A&M University. Preference will be extended to those youth who have participated in 4-H and Youth Development Programs sponsored by the Cooperative Extension Program. Application and guidelines are attached. Application is due to Prairie View by email noon on February 28th. If you have any questions, please contact Desiree at desiree.rucker@ag.tamu.edu.

Recipe Rally “Let’s Get Cooking”
In the 4-H Recipe Rally, intermediate and senior 4-H members are challenged with selecting, creating, and/ or altering a recipe and submitting a video. The video highlights the 4-H member(s) demonstrating the preparation of the receipt while also highlighting nutrients, food safety practices, serving size and cost analysis, as well as their inspiration for selection or creation of the recipe. For 2014, youth may enter as an individual or a team. The theme for the 2014 contest is Breakfast. More information is available at http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/healthy_lifestyles. Video is due by March 1st.
4-H Volunteer Recognition Awards
The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program is excited to release the 2014 Volunteer Recognition Packet. This information packet includes instructions, guidelines, and criteria for nominating volunteers, businesses, alumni, agents, and specialists for the annual awards presented at Texas 4-H Roundup on Wednesday, June 11, 2014.

Recognition is a key component of acknowledging the hard work and dedication of our volunteers, businesses, and Extension employees. We hope that you will take some time to review the information packet to identify individuals or businesses in your county which have had a longtime positive effect on the 4-H and youth development program.

This year, all award nominations are to be submitted online between now and March 1, 2014, so there is plenty of time to identify and write up the application. To assist you with the nomination process, a worksheet for each award type is included in the packet. Five different awards will be presented in 2014, which are:

- **TEXAS 4-H ALUMNI AWARD.** The Texas 4-H Alumni Award will recognize adults who have made significant achievements IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. Consideration is given to individuals who have demonstrated an outstanding record of achievement AS A 4-H MEMBER and who have shown evidence of 4-H’s influence on their adult lives. Continued service to 4-H in adulthood is very important. This award is sponsored by the Texas 4-H Friends and Alumni Association. No current Extension employee may receive this award. The number of 4-H alumni awards presented will vary from year to year.

- **CITATION FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO 4-H.** This award recognizes an individual or a business who has made an outstanding contribution to Texas 4-H programs ON A REGIONAL OR STATE BASIS. Awards are generally made based on a long-term commitment rather than a one-time program. Individuals or businesses that are local supporters, and limit their contributions to local programs, should be recognized at the local level. The number of citations awarded will vary from year to year.

- **LEADER’S LEGACY AWARD.** This award recognizes a 4-H leader who has been an integral part of the 4-H and Youth Development Program for 20 years or more. The person who is nominated for this award may or may not be the person who is always in the spotlight, but is one who makes an impact and a difference on the 4-H members with whom he/she works. Stretch beyond normal thinking and be inclusive in making a selection for this prestigious nomination. Specific requirements for the Leader’s Legacy Award include:
  - Twenty (20) or more years of service to 4-H as a volunteer leader.
  - Continuing support of the 4-H program at any level.
  - Must still be an active and current 4-H Volunteer for the 2013-14 4-H year.
  - Must have been a club manager or project leader in a county in Texas for at least five (5) years.

- **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD.** Annually two outstanding Extension professionals will be recognized for their role in making 4-H volunteers more effective with the Meritorious Service Award. These nominations should not be limited to 4-H Faculty. The nominee must be a resident of Texas and have been paid staff or faculty with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service/Texas 4-H for the immediate past five (5) years. Two awards are given annually.

- **TEXAS 4-H SALUTE TO EXCELLENCE.** This award recognizes outstanding 4-H volunteers for their service to 4-H programs and the impact that they have had on the lives of young people.
Each district may select two recipients who will be honored with this award. A couple may count as one nominee. The awards are sponsored by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program. Districts are strongly encouraged to submit one award winner for excellence in club work (community, project, school) and one award winner for excellence through special interest and curriculum enrichment programs. Selections are made at the district level with the nomination forms forwarded to the Texas 4-H Office. Winners should be notified by District Extension Offices.

All awards can be submitted on-line at: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/recognition. If you have any questions, please contact Greg or Desiree.

Texas Agriculture Irrigation Association Scholarship
The Dick Laursen Memorial Scholarship was created in honor of Dick Laursen, a life-long irrigation specialist. TAIA will award scholarships based on the applicant’s qualifications. Scholarships will be available to registered, full-time students either entering college or continuing a college education. Graduate students are also eligible. Scholarship application for the 2014 scholarship will be March 1st. Application can be found at: taia.org/Scholarship.html

Qualifications:
- An agriculture major
- Attend a Texas university or college
- Full-time student (12+ hours)
- Maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA, reporting GPA at end of each semester
- 1000 minimum word essay with application
- Not required to be a Texas resident
- $500 per semester / $4000 total maximum / 4 year maximum

Horizons 4-H Camp
This five day, four night camp (June 29 – July 3) focuses around project enhancement, career exploration, and personal/professional development for youth in grades 4 – 8. Each workshop is limited to 20 youth and are filled on a first come, first served basis. Evening activities are geared towards professional development and workforce preparation, and of course, camp recreation and games! Dances each night! There will be six (6) Project Focused workshops: Taxidermy, Food Challenge, Sport Fishing, Photography, Fashion, Share the Fun. Cost is $280, which includes meals, lodging, programming fees. Registration begins on March 1st. See attached flyer for more information.

Mission Possible Camp
This camp (July 7 – 9) promotes the involvement of all youth with and without disabilities or special needs or who require special accommodations to participate in a summer camping program. 4-H membership is NOT a requirement. Participants are encouraged to recognize their individual strengths and their own limitations while participating in a safe and fun camp environment! Cost is $175, which includes meals, lodging, programming fees and t-shirt. Registration begins on March 1st. See attached flyer for more information.

Prime Time 4-H Camp
Prime Time is an age-specific, four day three night camp experience. Session I (July 20-23) is for youth who have completed grades 5-8, while Session II (July 23-26) is for youth who have completed grades 2-5. Camp activities include swimming, kayaking, challenge course, rifle, archery, arts & crafts and lots more. Cost is $230 which includes meals, lodging and programming fees. Registration begins March 1st. See attached flyer for more information.
**County 4-H Roundup Contest** (Educational Presentations, Public Speaking and Share the Fun)

One of the best assets youth gain from their 4-H experience is the ability to speak before an audience. Members practice this skill while giving reports, running meetings, teaching peers and in our formal 4-H Public Speaking Contest….this is called Roundup. Members can enter as an individual or a team. They can use posters, slides or power point for their presentation. Entry form is attached.

Do you have a special talent like singing, dancing, playing a musical instrument or acting? Then the Share-The- Fun contest held in conjunction with Roundup may be just for you! A **NEW** acting category has been added this year called DRAMEDY! Here is the category description: A dramedy (also known as a comedy-drama or comedic drama) is an act that combines elements of comedy and drama, having both humorous and sometimes serious content. Acts cannot incorporate 4-H related material or theme. (Otherwise, it would be categorized as Celebrate 4-H.) Skits can be currently available scripts, original material, or a combination of the two. Humor and creativity are encouraged, but the degradation of any individual or organization is not permitted. May incorporate music, vocal selections, and/or choreographed routines, but these aspects cannot be more than half of the performance. The other six categories remain the same: Celebrate 4-H, Choreographed Routines, Poetry/Prose, Musical/Instrumental, Solo/Band Performance, and Vocal. Entry form, list of categories, guidelines and eligibility form are attached

The County Roundup Contest is Saturday, March 22nd at the George Gervin Academy at 6944 South Sunbelt Dr. Entry form is **due to our office by March 10th**. Entry form, list of categories, guidelines and eligibility form are attached. Because this is a Saturday event, you are welcome to fax the eligibility form to 930-1753 or scan and email to paxtell@ag.tamu.edu. We are looking for adult volunteers to help judge at County Roundup. If you know someone that may be interested, please call Pam with their name and we will mail them an information letter.