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Bexar Facts

January 2014

"...MORE THAN A 8 SECOND RIDE"

The San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo has been named the recipient of this prestigious industry award for nine years consecutively since 2005.

Each year, the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association honors the best of the best in rodeo professionals, stock contractors and rodeo committees during their annual Contract Personnel Awards Banquet at the South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. The banquet is held prior to the kickoff of the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo, the “Superbowl” of all rodeos. Because nominees and winners are voted on by their peers, this honor is considered one of the greatest by industry professionals and those associated with rodeo worldwide.

SAN ANTONIO STOCK SHOW & RODEO
PRCA’S LARGE INDOOR RODEO OF THE YEAR
FOR NINTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

The San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo is honored to announce that the ninth banner for Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association’s (PRCA) Large Indoor Rodeo of the Year will proudly be displayed in the AT&T Center for the 2014 Stock Show & Rodeo.

More than 80 4-H members’ livestock entries advanced to the “Auction of Champions from the Bexar County Junior Livestock Show
Scholarship Opportunities

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.

John S. Martinez Leadership Scholarship

The National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL) is now accepting applications for the John S. Martinez Leadership Scholarship! NHCSL will award scholarships to a total of eleven Hispanic public high school students that reside in the district of a Hispanic State Legislator. Each student will receive a one-time $3,000.00 grant to use towards their higher education and will be recognized in their community for their excellent academic achievements.

For more information or to submit an application visit www.nhcsl.org. The deadline to apply is March 15th.

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 / $2,000 total maximum / 4 year maximum

Selection of Scholarship Recipients are on the basis of the following:
- Academic achievement and honors
- Demonstration of leadership
- Participation in school and community activities
- Nomination letter
- Statement of goals and aspirations

Deadline for submission is April 1, 2014. For an application and a list of eligible counties, please contact Wendy Swift with Texas Farm Credit at 903-617-5353 or via email at wswift@texasfcs.com.

Norman Vestal Memorial Rotary Scholarship

The Rotary Club of San Antonio will grant five (5) $500 scholarships to Bexar County graduating seniors who plan to pursue a career in agriculture (to include agribusiness). In order to be considered for this scholarship, you must submit an essay (limited to 1000 words) including a self-description, 4-H activity, other extracurricular activities, employment, financial need, career goals in agriculture, and other experiences involving agriculture. Application and guidelines are attached to this email. Deadline to submit your application is Friday, April 4th. If you have any questions, please call 210/222-8242 Ex. 11.
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.

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 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. 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.

County 4-H Photography Contest

Do you like to take pictures....this is the contest to enter. Photos must have been taken by the 4-H member between the dates of January 1st, 2013 and March 9th, 2014. There are 15 different categories to enter. This contest is free to enter and your photo does not have to be mounted or enlarged to an 8x10. Rules and guidelines are attached. Photos are due to our office by Friday, March 14th. We are looking for adult volunteers to help judge photos. If you know someone that may be interested, please call Pam with their name and we will mail them an information letter.

The other six categories remain the same: Celebrate 4-H, Choreographed Routines, Poetry/Prose, Musical/Instrumental, Solo/Band Performance, and Vocal.

Science in Fiction Video Contest

The USA Science & Engineering Festival, in association with the Kavli Foundation, has launched the Science in Fiction video contest. Using scenes from popular science fiction movies and TV shows, and video games, Grade 6-12 students will create :30-:90 videos that investigate how science fictional scenes could be realized using current and developing technologies. The video contest culminates in a popular awards show, hosted by Bill Nye the contest deadline is Mar. 21st. First prize is $2000 cash prize and a travel stipend to travel to Washington D.C. for the Expo. The second prize is $750 and the third prize is $500. The People's Choice Award prize is $250. For more information visit their website http://www.usasciencefestival.org/2014-festival/2014-contests/kavli-video-contest-2013-2014.html.
The “Tech Wizards: 4-H Robotics Club” at Lackland AFB objective is to introduce 4-H youth to robotics and engineering.

A brief introduction of the robotics kit along with a basic understanding of how to program the robot using associated software was presented. The youth were divided into groups of two per team to build their robot. By following a provided set of instructions each team was able to practice basic building and engineering skills. As the youth worked on building a basic robot called a Cow-Bot, they were also able to practice team work, collaboration, leadership, and communication skills.

The emphasis of the “Tech Wizards: 4-H Robotics Club” on science, engineering, and technology (4-H SET) was readily accepted by the participants and did not deter them from being very engaged and excited to be a part of the club.

Youth Entomology Summer Camp

If you are 7 years old and up, and are interested in bugs, insects, and other creepy crawlers, you are welcome to attend this camp! We will be collecting insects, putting together amateur collections, doing experiments with insects, learning how to properly identify insects, and how insects are important. You have a selection of two different camp dates: Camp #1 is July 14-17 and Camp #2 is July 21-24. Cost is $100, which includes a bug collection kit and snacks. First Come – First Serve. This camp fills up fast, see attached flyer to sign up.

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 is 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.
WORKSHOPS, TRAINING, CLASSES & CLINICS

Vet Science Workshops

These workshops are open to all ages and are a learning series to help youth meet their required learning lessons in the veterinary science project. Some lessons will be in a classroom, but several lessons will be hands on. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, Mar. 11th, location TBA. Next meeting will be Apr. 8th, 6:30 p.m. For more information contact Jackie at jackiewanke@gmail.com

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 meet every Saturday at 3:30 p.m. in S-208 at the Extension Office. Plan for the class to go at least 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 future meetings will be Mar. 1st, Mar. 8th, Mar. 15th and Mar. 29th. Please call Betsy if you have any questions at 210-386-8482.

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. 24th at the San Antonio Pets Alive, Paul Jolly Center Petco Pavilion, 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. 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. 25th. 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. 18th, 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.