

BEXAR COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

January 17, 2024



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Club Manager Reports: Last Page



BULLETIN BOARD

The bulletin board section will highlight critical events, deadlines, and information for quick viewing.



2024 BEXAR COUNTY 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



Registration

- **Deadline: Friday, March 1st at 5:00pm**
- Registration form MUST be emailed to Kennedy and Kevin. kennedy.green@ag.tamu.edu and kevin.knapick@ag.tamu.edu

Judging

- Thursday, March 7th - Friday, March 22nd
- **Results: Wednesday, March 27th**
- **1st place seniors qualify for the state contest**
- State contest registration: April 1st-15th
- Volunteer: <https://forms.gle/CVRNAFcmUjY5uXa68>

Submission Link

<https://forms.gle/vtyuqGeRuXAcuF2g8>

- Photos must be uploaded to google form as .jpg, .jpeg, or .png ONLY.
- other formats will be disqualified
- Limit 1 photo per category per exhibitor



Questions: Please call the Bexar County AgriLife Extension Service office at (210) 631-0400 or email Kevin Knapick at kevin.knapick@ag.tamu.edu.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

BEXAR COUNTY FUNDRAISER

NEW BEXAR COUNTY 4-H FUNDRAISER!



Bexar County 4-H will partner with Fredericksburg Farms for our NEW Bexar County 4-H fundraiser. For many years Bexar County 4-H partnered with World's Finest Chocolate, and we thank them for their support and generosity. But over the past few years, we have seen a rapid decline in participation in our county fundraiser; this fundraiser is the critical component that allows us to provide generous reimbursements for our 4-H members to participate in many district and state-level opportunities. The Bexar County AgriLife staff and Bexar County 4-H Council are extremely excited about this opportunity! We will be selling "freshies".

What is a Freshie?

- Wax air fresheners in fun shapes
- 30-45 days of fragrance
- Can be placed anywhere (may stain fabrics)
- May melt in extremely high temps.

What members need to know:

- Each individual club will receive a percentage of their sales just as we did with chocolate.
- Club managers will gather their club orders and submit them to the Extension office for ordering.
- Orders will be collected 3 times during the year!
- All clubs must submit payment with their orders to the county extension office.
- 12 Freshie options to choose from

Information:

[Flyer](#)
[Order Form](#)

Next order Deadline: April 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Upcoming Events section will provide a complete look at the known upcoming events and deadlines.

JAN 19	Nueces County Livestock Judging Contest – Pg. 10
JAN 27	Karnes County 4-H Livestock Judging Contest – Pg.10
JAN 27	Central Texas 4-H Invitational CDM Contest – Pg. 13
FEB 1	District 10 Photography Contest OPENS 4-HOnline – Pg. 21
FEB 1	Big Tex Scholarship DEADLINE – Pg. 7
FEB 6	Bell County Youth Fair Invitational Judging Contest DEADLINE – Pg. 10
FEB 6	District 10 HLSR Horse Judging DEADLINE – Pg. 12
FEB 9	McLennan County Livestock Judging Contest – Pg. 10
FEB 9	Bell County Youth Fair Invitational Judging Contest – Pg. 10
FEB 12	Wilson County 4-H Small-Bore Rifle Invitational Shoot DEADLINE – Pg. 16
FEB 15	Texas 4-H Found Opportunity Scholarship DEADLINE – Pg. 7
FEB 16 – 17	Wilson County 4-H Small-Bore Rifle Invitational Shoot – Pg. 16
FEB 20	District 10 Photography Contest DEADLINE 4-HOnline - Pg. 21
FEB 24	Gonzales County AgRobotics Contest DEADLINE – Pg. 18
FEB 24 – 25	Buc Days Invitational 4-H Clays Youth Shoot – Pg. 16
MAR 1	Gonzales County AgRobotics Contest - Pg. 18
MAR 1	Texas Farm Bureau Scholarships DEADLINE – Pg. 7
MAR 1	Bexar County Photography Contest DEADLINE – Pg. 18
MAR 16	Jim Wells County 4-H Invitational Ag Product ID – Pg. 10
APR 1	Lockheed Martin STEM Scholarship DEADLINE – Pg. 7
APR 12 – 13	Henderson County Whiz Bang – Pg. 16
APR 15	Texas 4-H State Photography Contest DEADLINE – Pg. 18
MAY 11	Buc Days Invitational Food Challenge – Pg. 13

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

CONTEST PAGE

The contest page will provide a look at all major contests at the county, district, and state levels.

2023 – 2024 County – District – State CONTEST/EVENTS CALENDAR

FALL & WINTER DATES

District 10 4-H Horse Judging at HLSR	
<i>**All 4-H members must submit an HLSR Stock Show entry form/fees to their County Office to compete in the District 10 4-H Horse Judging contest that is being held conjunction with the Houston Stock Show.</i>	
DISTRICT REGISTRATION OPENS: Jan. 15, 2024	
DISTRICT REGISTRATION DEADLINE Feb. 6, 2024	
DISTRICT LATE REGISTRATION: Feb. 7-9, 2024	
Mar. 4, 2024	• Horse Judging @ HLSR
District 10 4-H Virtual Photography Contest	
REGISTRATION OPENS: Thurs., Feb. 1, 2024	
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tue. Feb. 20, 2024	
LATE REGISTRATION: Wed.–Fri. Feb 21-23, 2024	
Feb. 23, 2024	4HOnline Registration CLOSES
Mar. 29, 2024	Photography Results Released
Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship	
APPLICATIONS OPEN: November 1, 2023	
APPLICATIONS CLOSE: Feb. 15, 2024 @11:59PM	
Nov. 1, 2023	Scholarship Guidelines Released
Feb. 15, 2024	Scholarship Applications Close
Information	Texas 4-H Foundation Website
Other Scholarship Opportunities	
Big Tex Scholarship Program (State Fair of TX)	
Feb. 1, 2024	Scholarship Applications Close
Information	Big Tex Scholarship Website
Texas Farm Bureau Scholarships	
Mar. 1, 2024	Scholarship Applications Close
Information	TFB Scholarship Website

SPRING & SUMMER DATES

District 10 SPRING Roundup – Fredericksburg, TX	
REGISTRATION OPENS: Friday, March 1, 2024	
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tues., Mar. 19, 2024	
LATE REGISTRATION: Wed.–Fri, Mar. 20-22, 2024	
Spring Roundup CONTEST DATES	
April 9, 2024	• Leaders 4 Life (Location TBD)
April 10, 2024	• Meat Judging (San Angelo, TX)
April 15, 2024	• Livestock Judging
April 16, 2024	• Consumer Decision Making • Range/Pasture ID & Range Evaluation • Wool & Mohair Judging
April 17, 2024	• Share the Fun • Soil Judging
April 18, 2024	• Duds 2 Dazzle • Fashion Show & Natural Fibers
April 20, 2024	• Smallbore Rifle (Floresville, TX)
April 26, 2024	• 4-H Storyboard Results Released
District 10 Horse Show – Dripping Springs, TX	
REGISTRATION OPENS: Wednesday, May 1, 2024	
REGISTRATION DEADLINE Tues. May 14, 2024	
LATE REGISTRATION: W-F, May 15-17, 2024	
EVENT DATE: June 13, 2024	
District 10 Leadership Lab – Brownwood, TX	
REGISTRATION OPENS: Wednesday, May 1, 2024	
EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: May 28, 2024	
LATE FEE REGISTRATION: May 29-31, 2024	
EVENT DATE: June 26-28, 2024	
District 10 Record Book Judging – Fredericksburg	
REGISTRATION OPENS: Saturday, June 1, 2024	
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tues., June 25, 2024	
LATE REGISTRATION: Wed.–Fri. June 26-28, 2024	
EVENT DATE: July 11, 2024	

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

4-H EVENTS AND TRAININGS

The Local Events section will provide upcoming county meetings and training opportunities.

4-H Training Request Form- **PERSONAL CLUB TRAININGS AVAILABLE**

- **Information:** If you are interested in having a 4-H staff member speak at your event/club meeting, please complete this [form](#) and submit it to kevin.knapick@ag.tamu.edu at least 3 weeks prior to the requested date. Please allow 3-5 business days for confirmation. Please contact us at 210-631-0400 with questions.

2023-2024 Upcoming Virtual/In-Person Trainings

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2023-2024 Bexar County 4-H Council Dates
January 18th, March 21st, May 16th (Elections)

SCHOLARSHIPS

The scholarship page will provide a look at all upcoming scholarship opportunities for 4-H members.



FAFSA Information

Applicants must complete a 2024-2025 FAFSA Application by January 31st to be eligible for consideration for a Texas 4-H Foundation Opportunity Scholarship.

- In the FAFSA section in the Texas 4-H Foundation Opportunity Scholarship application, applicants will input a "0" for the EFC box.
- In the FAFSA upload spot, applicants will upload a screenshot of their FAFSA account dashboard that shows their form is in review, submission date, and name of applicant. (Example below)
- If applicants already have their report back from FAFSA, they can input it in the appropriate spots.
- If applicants have not received their FAFSA report back by the February 15th deadline, they need to follow the instructions above using their FAFSA submission confirmation.

The Texas 4-H Foundation Opportunity Scholarship DEADLINE is still February 15th. Once applicants receive their official FAFSA report back (after February 15th) they will submit it using this link:

<https://fs23.formsite.com/YVsLnb/junaan8zju/index>

Texas 4-H Foundation Opportunity Scholarships – DEADLINE February 15th @ 11:59pm (Texas 4-H Foundation Website) (INFORMATION)

The Texas 4-H Foundation Opportunity Scholarship information is now available! You can find all the scholarship information [here](#). A few things to note...

- Collegiate Scholarships will NOT be given out in 2024.
- If an applicant does not receive their SAR report in time before the deadline, they will get a "preliminary EFC number" before they get their official Report. We encourage all applicants to take a screenshot of your preliminary EFC page and upload the screenshot until your official FAFSA SAR Report is returned. Please contact your county agent and Kelly Gideon with the Foundation office to assist. Kelly can help anyone that reaches out **BEFORE** the deadline.

Bexar County 4-H S.A.L.E. Scholarship – INFORMATION COMING SOON

Texas Farm Bureau Scholarships – DEADLINE March 1st

Applications for all TFB scholarships are open for submission. TFB awards over \$240,000 each year to graduating high school seniors and enrolled college students. Applications must be submitted by **11:59 p.m. on March 1, 2024**. Winners will be accounted by May 2024. Information on how to apply for the scholarship is available by clicking [here](#).

Big Tex Scholarship Program (INFORMATION) – DEADLINE February 1st

Applications for all Big Tex scholarships are open for submission. The Big Tex Scholarship Program has awarded college scholarships to more than 3,000 students for a total of more than \$17.4 million. Eligible recipients include graduating high school seniors around the state of Texas who have participated in competitive youth livestock events held at the State Fair.

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SCHOLARSHIPS

The scholarship page will provide a look at all upcoming scholarship opportunities for 4-H members.

NEW

Lockheed Martin STEM Scholarship ([INFORMATION](#)) – [DEADLINE April 1st](#)

STEM Scholarship Program Information ~ This year, Lockheed Martin will award up to 100 scholarships to those who are selected for the [STEM Scholarship Program](#). The Lockheed Martin STEM Scholarship Program is only open to applicants and recipients who are U.S. citizens attending or planning to attend an accredited U.S. 4-year college or university full time. Learn more including applying for the scholarship by visiting the [STEM](#) Scholarship Program pages which includes a **FAQ** page.

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK

The ag and livestock page will be your one stop shop for all critical livestock information.

Project Visits – If you have any questions or need help with your livestock project, feel free to contact me. You're welcome to call, email, text, or swing by the Extension Office. I would like to see your project throughout the feeding period and would prefer to stop by when you and your parents(s) are available. Please reach out to schedule an appointment.

Project Meetings/Resources – If you have an idea for a livestock project meeting or you're an adult looking for resources to share with members, feel free to contact Sam womble. Sam is happy to help! Contact Sam.Womble@ag.tamu.edu or call the office # 210-631-0400 or cell # 361-649-5836.

2023 – 2024 Livestock Project Meetings

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Important Quality Counts Update (FAQ) (QC Enrollment Instructions)



A reminder, all exhibitors are required to provide a verified QC number at the time of major livestock show entry. This new process/exam is NOT required for everyone. Only those users who are new or are moving to the next grade level course (junior: 3-5th grade, intermediate: 6-8th, senior: 9-12th) are required to take Quality Counts this year.

CHECK YOUR PROJECT TATTOOS TO ENSURE THEY ARE VISIBLE! If you need assistance, please reach out to Sam or Kevin to make sure your tattoo is good to prevent a potential disqualification. All tattoos must be replaced 3 weeks prior to the show you are entered in!

SHOW TIME! Validation Reminders!

- Heifers – we require the original registration papers only! No copy, electronic copy, or online papers will be accepted.
- The exhibitor must bring original registration papers to the RING. They will not be allowed to retrieve them from their stalls/showbox.
- If registration papers have been reprinted, we need new papers and a letter from association emailed to the office ASAP. This must be received BEFORE show check in.
- Please check all tattoos for steers and heifers. Steers must be the county number and heifers must match the registration paper. These must be legible. If they are not there or not readable, the animal will be disqualified. We will not pull DNA for these instances.
- The county tattoo for a steer can be in either ear.
- Retags for both steers and heifers will be administered at the show for \$25 CASH. We will need the old tag number. Animals must be retagged within 2 weeks of losing the tag. Only those livestock losing tags close to the time of show should be retagged there. I will take retag forms emailed to me up until check in day.

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AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK

Market Poultry Workshop ([REGISTRATION](#))

Are you raising chickens or other poultry for 4-H or FFA? Join Texas A&M poultry experts as they walk you through a series of videos related to the rearing of poultry for youth livestock shows in Texas.

Bell County Youth Fair Invitational Judging Contest – [DEADLINE February 6th](#)

Bell County will be hosting a Youth Fair Invitational Judging Contest, open to any 4-H or FFA member. Registration via Judging Card closes on Tuesday, **February 6th at 5:00 PM**. The contest will be held **Friday, February 9th, 2024 at the** Cadence Bank Center, 301 W Loop 121, Belton, Texas 76513 (The Bell County EXPO just has a new name!) **Registration [HERE!](#)**

- **Livestock Judging** – [Rules & Info](#)
- **Ag Product ID** – [Rules & Info](#)
- **Vet Science Skillathon** – [Rules & Info](#)
- **Wool Judging** – [Rules & Info](#)
- **Rabbit Judging** – [Rules & Info](#)

NEW

McLennan County Livestock Judging Contest ([FLYER](#))

McLennan County will be hosting a Livestock Judging Contest at their McLennan County Jr. Livestock Show. The contest will be held at the Extraco Event Center (4601 Bosque Blvd, Waco, TX 76710) February 9, 2024. Please see the flyer for more information.

NEW

Nueces County Livestock Judging Contest ([FLYER](#))

Nueces County will be hosting a Livestock Judging Contest on January 19th at the Richard M. Borchard Regional Fairgrounds. (1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd, Robstown, TX 78380) Please see the flyer for more information.

NEW

Karnes County 4-H Livestock Judging Contest ([FLYER](#))

Karnes County will be hosting a Livestock Judging Contest on January 27th at the Karnes Youth Show Barn (1480 CR 345, Karnes City, TX 78119) Please see the flyer for more information.

NEW

Jim Wells County 4-H Invitational Ag Product ID Contest ([ENTRY](#)) ([FLYER](#)) – [DEADLINE March 4th](#)

Jim Wells County invites 4-H members to compete at their Invitational Ag Product ID Contest on **March 16th** in Alice, TX. Registration will be \$10 per individual pr \$40 per team.

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

BCJLS UPDATES

The BCJLS page will provide a look at all major updates from the Bexar County Junior Livestock Show.



County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

HORSE UPDATES

The horse page will provide a look at all horse events at the county, district, and state levels.

District 10 4-H H.L.S.R. Horse Judging (FLYER) – DEADLINE February 6th

The District 10 4-H Horse Judging contest will be hosted at the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo (HLSR) this year. Guide and Schedule coming soon! To correctly register for this contest, all 4-H members must:

- Submit entries/fees for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo via Judgingcard.com. Please contact the extension office to correctly submit entries by the deadline.
- Register all contestants/teams on 4HOnline by the District February 6th deadline in order to compete in the District 10 4-H Horse Judging qualifier.

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH

The FCH page will provide a look at all major FCH related events at the county, district, and state levels.

Central Texas 4-H Invitational CDM Contest ([FLYER](#)) ([REGISTRATION](#))

Coryell County and Milam County are hosting an invitational Consumer Decision Making contest on Saturday, January 27, 2024. The registration deadline is January 16th. Teams are \$40 and individuals are \$10 per entry. There will be junior, intermediate, and senior age divisions.

Fashion and Interior Design Project Survey ([FLYER](#)) ([SURVEY](#))

Are you a 4-H member that would like to participate in a Fashion and Interior Design project? Complete the survey link above!

NEW

Buc Days Invitational Food Challenge ([RULES](#)) ([REGISTRATION](#))

The Buccaneer Commission in Corpus Christi, Texas, will be hosting an invitational Food Challenge May 11, 2024. The event will be hosted on Buc Days Festival grounds in the American Bank Center Exhibit Hall where \$7,500 will be awarded in prize money.

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

LEADERSHIP & CITIZENSHIP

The leadership / citizenship page will provide all leadership events at the county, district, and state levels.

Citizen Washington Focus

National 4-H is looking for all future change agents in 2024! Join 4-H'ers from across the nation at one of two incredible weeks of the new Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) experience. The dates for 2024 are June 15-22, 2024, and June 20-27, 2024. [Click here to register now.](#)

2024 National 4-H Conference [\(INFORMATION\)](#) – **DEADLINE December 15th**

Applications for youth to participate in the 2023 National 4-H Conference on April 19-24, 2024, in Arlington, VA will open on 4Honline on December 1, 2023. Youth must be 15 – 19 years old to attend.

National 4-H True Leaders in Equity Institute – **DEADLINE May 17th**

National 4-H Council's True Leaders in Equity Institute is an opportunity to discuss pertinent issues that challenge your community. Teens and adult teams will engage with inspiring speakers, learn from hands on workshops, and become change agents to create welcoming and belonging environments for all. Be the first to know when True Leaders in Equity Institute 2024 registration opens and other key dates by signing up at the link. [Save this link to stay informed on updates.](#)

Rodeo Austin Leadership Opportunity

Please see the attached PDF file [HERE](#) to view all opportunities for youth to sing the National Anthem and recite the American, Texas Pledges, the FFA Motto and the 4-H Pledge at the market shows for Rodeo Austin. For those interested, please sign up [HERE](#). You will need to plan to arrive at least 30 mins prior to the start of the species show in which you are volunteering. **Youth interested in singing the National Anthem, submit a video at the link [here](#).**

NEW

Youth in Action Webinar

Have you heard of the National 4-H Youth in Action Program? The 4-H Youth in Action program amplifies the diverse stories and leadership of 4-H youth who are making a difference in their communities every day. It is a premiere community of 4-H'ers who are preparing for their future while showcasing how 4-H changed their lives and equipped them to change the lives of others. Join National 4-H on January 23rd at 1:00 PM ET for a special webinar opportunity for Extension professionals & members wanting to learn more about the upcoming Youth in Action program. [Click here to register.](#)

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

NATURAL RESOURCES

The natural resources page will provide a look at all major events at the county, district, and state levels.

NEW

4-H Plant Identification Plant Mounts Resource

Individuals & Teams interested in participating in the 4-H Plant Identification Contest will need to secure new sources for plant mounts. Unfortunately, the TAMU Range Club will no longer be accepting plant mount orders until Fall 2024. Texas Range Plant Mounts: If you are looking for plant mounts for the 4-H Plant Identification contest, Shanna Gleason and Daphne Kast, members of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Class of 2022, are selling plant mounts for \$2.50 each. Shanna and Daphne competed in international collegiate plant identification contests while attending Texas A&M University. They recognized the need for study mounts for teams across Texas. Whether you are just starting a plant ID team or are trying to get some new mounts because your teams have memorized all the old ones, Texas Range Plant Mounts can serve as a good resource. Contact them through their [Facebook Page](#) to learn more and see what is currently available. You can also contact the Kast's by email at daphne.kast@gmail.com.

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

SHOOTING SPORTS

The shooting sports page will provide a one stop shop for all upcoming shooting sports activities.

Henderson County Whiz Bang ([FLYER](#)) – [DEADLINE April 10th](#)

Henderson County Shotgun Sports group will once again be hosting 2 Whiz Bangs in one weekend. The event will be held April 12th and 13th at 5H In Frankston. See flyer has the complete details on this event and how to register.

Wilson County 4-H Small-Bore Rifle Invitational Shoot – [DEADLINE February 12th](#)

Wilson County will be hosting a Small-Bore Rifle Invitational Shoot February 16th – 17th, 2024 at the Wilson County Show Barn (435 TX-97, Floresville, TX 78114) It will begin 8:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. Relays will be added once ALL above relays are full. The cost will be \$10 per competitor, MUST PREPAY TO SECURE A SPOT.

NEW

Buc Days Invitational 4-H Clays Youth Shoot ([RULES](#)) ([REGISTRATION](#))

The Buccaneer Commission in Corpus Christi, Texas, will host an invitational 4-H Clays Youth Shoot February 24-25, 2024. The event will be held at the Corpus Christi Gun Club, and \$25,000 in prize money and scholarships will be awarded.

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

STEM

The STEM contest page will provide a look at all STEM opportunities at the county, district, and state levels.

2023 – 2024 AgRobotics Game Rules RELEASED!

Information: The challenge rules for this year's AgRobotics game have been posted and can be found on the state robotics page here in the contest section: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/robotics/> These rules apply to the following major stock show AgRobotics contests:

- State Fair of Texas
- Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo
- San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo
- Rodeo Austin
- San Angelo Stock Show & Rodeo **(NEW CONTEST!)**

2023 4-H STEM Challenge: Power Protectors

Explore the exciting world of renewable energy with the **2023 4-H STEM Challenge Kit, [Power Protectors](#)**! This year's Challenge Kit teaches kids about the exciting world of renewable energy. Perfect for youth aged 8 to 14, the kit consists of three activities that provide them with the knowledge to address real-world issues and explore careers in energy. The three activities are:

Be A Wind Warrior

Get blown away by the awesome power of the wind! Build a windmill structure to learn about mechanical engineering, simple machines and the superpowers of reusable energy. [Click here to get started.](#)

4-H STEM – Solar Eclipses NASA Webinar

NASA is conducting a webinar covering the upcoming solar eclipse. The webinar is scheduled for January 23rd. Please note the time on the [FLYER HERE](#) is Eastern Time – Please be sure to logon at 11AM Central Time. Please use the link on the flyer to register. Please take this opportunity to learn more about this event and how to prepare for safe and engaging viewing with your 4-H members!



CLOVER: Exploring the Secrets of Our Sun (ACTIVITY)

Developed by Utah State University and EDP Renewables, help youth dive into the world of experiential learning! 4-H youth will build a solar energy model, get their hands dirty (well, not literally), and learn about renewable energy. From understanding the principles of photovoltaics to assembling the components, every step is a chance to explore, discover, and apply real-world knowledge.

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STEM

The STEM contest page will provide a look at all STEM opportunities at the county, district, and state levels.

Bexar County Photography Contest – [Rules and Registration](#) – [DEADLINE March 1st](#)

The rules for the 2023-2024 Bexar County Photography Contest have been released (Download above). For those who may be new to 4-H, the Bexar County Photography Contest serves as the qualifier for senior members to compete state. This is different from other contests and instead of the district contest serving as the qualifier photos qualify directly from COUNTY to STATE. Each county may submit no more than 1 photo per category (15 total). If you have questions please call the Bexar County AgriLife Extension Service office at (210) 631-0400 or email Kevin Knapick at kevin.knapick@ag.tamu.edu.

District 10 4-H Photography Contest ([RULES](#)) ([GUIDE](#)) – [DEADLINE February 20th](#)

The District 10 Photography Contest encourages self-expression and allows youth to demonstrate skills learned in photography, including the use of photographic equipment and process of photographs. Registration Period: \$15 per contestant entered – **Feb. 1 – Feb. 20, 2024** *NOTE: *State qualifications will come for your local County Photography contest.* Registration on 4HOnline (v2.4honline.com). Please reference the Event Registration instructions here: [DOWNLOAD](#). Limit of 3 photos per participant.

STATE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST – [DOWNLOAD GUIDE](#) – [DEADLINE April 15th](#)

The rules for the 2023-2024 State Photography Contest have been released. For those who may be new to Extension, the state 4-H photography contest is a senior-only qualifying contest where photos qualify directly from COUNTY to STATE. Each county may submit no more than 1 photo per category (15 total). As stated in the rules, counties are highly encouraged to have some type of selection process in place to determine which photos are eligible. The timeline for entry is April 1-15. If you have questions about this contest, please contact Derrick Bruton. Key points:

- Qualify from county level (district contests have no bearing on qualifications)
- Open to senior age division only
- 15 categories (includes a new “Abandoned” theme for this year)
- **Entry: April 1-15, 2024 @ 11:59PM on 4HOnline & Submittable. No late entries accepted.**



Gonzales County AgRobotics Contest ([FLYER](#)) – [DEADLINE February 24th](#)

4-H Robotics Teams are invited to Gonzales County's Invitational AgRobotics Contest on Friday March 1, 2024. The contest will be hosted at the JB Wells Park, Arena & Expo Center in Gonzales, TX (2301 Co Rd 197, Gonzales, TX 78629). This contest is open to teams (2-4) in the Junior, Intermediate & Senior age division. **Teams must register [HERE](#)** on or before February 24, 2024. For more information on the AgRobotics Contest & Game Rules for this season please visit: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/robotics/>

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

GENERAL INFORMATION/EVENTS

The general information page will be the classified section of our newsletter for all general opportunities.

This will also be our section to advertise for local businesses that support Bexar County 4-H.

4-H More Information and Materials

We're challenging each 4-H member to invite four friends to join 4-H. For returning 4-H members who invite new members in, we've set up an incentive program. Incentives include:

- 1 new member: 4-H 4 More T-Shirt
- 2 new members: Membership Refund
- 3 new members: Leather portfolio
- 4 new members: Backpack & State Recognition

How is this tracked? When a new member registers on 4HOnline, they will have the availability to input who referred them 4-H. Utilize the marketing materials below!

- [Facebook Post Template](#)
- [Instagram Post Template](#) & [Instagram Story Template](#)
- [Flyer Template](#) & [Brochure Template](#)

2024 Ignite by 4-H

Spark your imagination and passion! [Ignite by 4-H](#), an inclusive teen event, returns March 13-17, 2024, to Washington, D.C. Join us for four days of inspiring and engaging panels, respected speakers, hands-on workshops, and connections. [Click here to watch a video and get excited!](#)

Travel Abroad with 4-H in 2024

Join other 4-H members from across the state and travel across Europe June 8-17, 2024. Visit Berlin, Prague, Krakow, and Budapest. Contact Darlene.locke@ag.tamu.edu for more information. [Register today by clicking here and inputting "Locke-7342".](#)

Core Academy (FLYER)

June 17th – 21st, Explore Stephenville, Abilene, and San Angelo. One of the goals of the CORE Academy is to bring awareness to an assortment of possible careers.

Souper Bowl of Caring 2024 BEGINS! (FLYER) (PLAYBOOK)

4-H are asked to collect food and/or monetary donations for local food pantries or hunger relief organizations during January 1 – February 11, 2023. All efforts are local! the official Tackle Hunger Challenge Playbook.

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

GENERAL INFORMATION/EVENTS

2024 Texas 4-H Dog Show Validation ([INSTRUCTIONS](#)) – DEADLINE January 10th

The Texas 4-H Dog Show will be held on July 11-13, 2024 at the Walker County Fairgrounds in Huntsville, Texas. Please see the following the 2024 Texas 4-H Dog Show Rule Book [HERE](#) for more information. We strongly encourage members to validate their dogs even if they are not sure they will be participating in the Texas 4-H Dog Show. Here are some things to keep in mind:

- For purebred dogs (they do not have to be registered) you will select the group and list the breed.
- For mixed breed dogs you will select the Weight Group of the dog and list the dominant breed along with the word "Mix" or list the two breeds if known. (Ex: Border Collie Mix/Mastiff/Great Dane)
- Photos of the left/right side of the dog should be a side view of the entire dog. Pictures must be clear & well-lit to see all markings/color of the dog. The dog should only be wearing a collar only.
- Dogs MUST be validated each year.

2024 Texas 4-H Dog Show T-Shirt Design Contest ([FLYER](#)) – DEADLINE February 15th

The 2024 Texas 4-H Dog Show is looking for creative 4-H members to create a shirt design for the annual Texas 4-H Dog Show T-Shirt! **ALL** age divisions are welcome to participate (Clovers, Juniors, Intermediates & Seniors). An overall design will be selected from the 1st place winners per each age division.

2024 San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo Junior Vaquero Cook-Off ([RULES](#))

4-H Teams are invited to compete in the 2024 San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo Junior Vaquero Cook-Off on Saturday, **February 3, 2024**. Entries for the 2024 Junior Vaquero Cook-Off are now open & will close when the capacity of 40 teams has been reached. Visit sarodeo.com/vaquero and click on the Youth Vaquero Cook-Off Contest link for more information, guidelines, eligibility, scholarship qualifications, rules and regulations and to get your team registered.

4-H Center Teen Retreat ([FLYER](#))

The Texas 4-H Center on Lake Brownwood is the place to be for teens in grades 9-12 January 5-7, 2024! Participants will have three sessions that include team building, leadership, and citizenship learning opportunities, in addition to the loads of fun over the weekend. Registration is now open, and the cost is \$100 per youth.

Texas 4-H Center Summer Calendar RELEASED! ([CALENDAR](#))

The Texas 4-H Center will host a series of camps for 4-H members of all ages during the months of June, July & August. Space is limited in each camp, so mark your calendar!

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

GENERAL INFORMATION/EVENTS

District 10 4-H Photography Contest ([RULES](#)) ([GUIDE](#)) – DEADLINE February 20th

The District 10 Photography Contest encourages self-expression and allows youth to demonstrate skills learned in photography, including the use of photographic equipment and process of photographs. Registration Period: \$15 per contestant entered – **Feb. 1 – Feb. 20, 2024** *NOTE: The District 10 4-H competition does not qualify Senior 4-H members for the Texas 4-H State Photography contest. State qualifications will come for your local County Photography contest. Registration on 4HOnline (v2.4honline.com). Please reference the Event Registration instructions here: [DOWNLOAD](#). Limit of 3 photos per participant.

Junior Master Gardener Virtual Leader Training Conference – DEADLINE February 12th

Teachers, Volunteers, Youth Educators, Extension employees and anyone interested in working with youth gardening. This information will prepare you to utilize JMG programs/curricula, best practices for implementation, build sustainable youth garden programs and connect with others! The cost for the conference is \$65. Includes access to all sessions/talks for up to four (4) months following conference conclusion, CPE certificates provided, Q/A opportunities, hands-on lessons, and door prizes. Register [here](#)!

2024 Texas 4-H Roundup Handbook Released ([HANDBOOK](#)) – DEADLINE May 13

Texas 4-H Roundup will be on June 3 – 6, 2024. **CONTEST UPDATES** can be found [here](#).

2024 Texas 4-H Roundup Hotel Room Block ([INFORMATION](#))

Hotel room block information for Texas 4-H Roundup 2024 is now available! Don't wait to book your rooms, contact the hotels now. Roundup will be held in Bryan/College Station June 3-6.

2024 Texas 4-H Roundup Sponsorship Opportunities ([INFORMATION](#))

Roundup provides life changing opportunities to senior level 4-H youth each year! Do you know of a business, group, or individual who might be interested in supporting Texas 4-H Roundup financially? Click [here](#) to find more information or contact jana.barrett@aq.tamu.edu with any questions.

County deadlines may differ from district or state deadlines to allow the county extension staff time to review and complete entries.

CLUB MANAGER REPORTS

The Club Manager Report page will contain the link and QR Code for all club managers to submit their monthly reports to the County Extension Office.



LINK: <https://forms.gle/MMzKsUZ95BJChTiM9>