

February 7, 2014

Cheryl E. Walker

4-H News From Cheryl

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Attention 4-H Families:

In place of a bi-monthly 4-H Newsletter, we are going to try to send a weekly blast of upcoming information. Make sure you keep you 4-H Connect family email updated so you don't miss out. The emails are copied from the active 4-H enrollments, so if some of 4-H families are missing the email, have them contact the Extension Office to correct the problem.

Calendar of Events:

February:

- 10 – MCJLS Entry Night in Rockdale (for Animals, Home Economics and Premium Baked Goods Divisions)
- 11 – MCJLS Entry Night in Thorndale (for Animals, Home Economics and Premium Baked Goods Divisions)
- 12 – MCJLS Broiler Pick-Up
- 13 – San Antonio Livestock Show Horse Judging Contest
- 15 – San Antonio Livestock Show Consumer Decision Making Contest
- 16 – San Antonio Livestock Show Poultry Judging Contest
- 18 – MCJLS Entry Night in Cameron (for Animals, Home Economics and Premium Baked Goods Divisions)
- 18 – MCJLS Rabbit Tattooing
- San Antonio Livestock Show Livestock Judging Contest

March:

- 1 – District 4-H Consumer and Nutrition Quiz Bowl Contests in Waco
- 3 – County 4-H Roundup and Share the Fun Contests at the Cameron Chamber of Commerce meeting room
- 3 – County 4-H Fashion Show at the Cameron Chamber of Commerce meeting room
- 8 – Houston Livestock Show Range and Plant I.D. Contest
- 10 – Houston Livestock Show Horse Judging Contest
- 12 – Houston Livestock Show Poultry Judging Contest
- 15 – Deadline for Texas Brigade Applications
- 17 – Houston Livestock Show Livestock Judging Contest
- 22 -- Premium Baked Goods Division Judging and Showmanship Contest
- 24 – County 4-H Council Meeting and Leaders Meeting in Thorndale
- 27 – 28 – Home Economics Division Contest
- 27 – 29 – Milam County Jr. Livestock Show in Cameron

April:

- 4 – District 4-H Fashion Show
- 5 – District 4-H Horse Judging Contest
- 5 – Hackamore Invitational Plant I.D. and Range Evaluation Contests
- 11 – District 4-H Plant I.D. and Range Evaluation Contests
- 12 – District 4-H Roundup Contests
- 12 – Nature Fest at the Rockdale Fair Grounds
- 14 – County 4-H Council and Leaders meetings in Rockdale
- 26 – District Soil and Livestock Judging Contests
- April – watch for dates for the following in April
 - County Camp Sign-Up
 - Rockdale Fair Commercial Heifer Tag-In
 - Order Major Livestock Show Steer Tags
 - Order Major Livestock Show Swine, Goat and Lamb Tags
 - Order Rockdale Fair Turkey and Broilers

Topics:

Milam County Jr. Livestock Show – March 27 – 29, 2014

- Entry Nights – **ALL** of the MCJLS entry forms and fees must be submitted at the entry nights -- Rockdale I.S.D. Ag Building – Monday, February 10. Thorndale I.S.D. Ag Building – Tuesday, February 11. Cameron YEB – Tuesday February 18
- Rules and Entry forms are available on the Milam County Extension Website - <http://milam.agrilife.org/>
- Separate Entry Forms for the following divisions
 - Premium Baked Good Division with Showmanship (entry fee and form)
 - Home Economics Division (no entry fee, just entry form)
 - Animal Division (entry fee and separate form for each animal)
- Broiler Pick-up on February 12th
- Rabbit Tattooing on February 18th

Camp Opportunities –

Texas Brigades Wildlife Camps -- five different camps -- Registration Due March 15

Volunteer for 4-H Workshops and Events

Youth and Adults needed to help plan and conduct workshops and events for Milam County 4-H. Sign-up for one or more of the opportunities listed below.

Congratulations –

Horse Judging Teams competed in Bay City Contest

New Rules - MCJLS Home Economics and Premium Baked Goods Divisions

The new rules for the Milam County Jr. Livestock Show Home Economics and Premium Baked Goods Divisions have just been received by the Extension Office. All entries will be submitted to the MCJLS show secretary during the registration nights in February.

Complete rules and entry forms are now posted on the Milam County Extension website and available at the Extension Office. There is one entry form for Home Economics entries and one entry form for Premium Baked Goods entries. February 18, 2014 is the deadline for entries for

both divisions.

Major considerations for the Home Economics Division is: no entry fees; open to youth residents of Milam County or youth that attend Milam County schools; four age divisions (Beginners, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior); seven divisions for entries (collections; artistic arrangements; creative arts; drawing; painting; photography; and wood/metal); check-in times set for March 27 and March 28.

Premium Baked Goods Division is NEW for 2014 and also has a Showmanship Division. The entry fee is \$20 per entry with a maximum of nine entries (three per division). The entry divisions are: Cakes; Pies; and Cookies. Entries from any 4-H, FCCLA or FFA member will compete against each other in the cake, pie and cookie judging, but the Showmanship Judging will be divided into age divisions (Beginners, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior). The check-in and judging will be completed on Saturday, March 22. This is a premium contest and will not be part of the auction sale. To enter the Premium Baked Goods and Showmanship divisions you must be a 4-H, FCCLA or FFA member.

Remember the entry deadline for MCJLS Home Economics and Premium Baked Goods Divisions is February 18, 2014. All entries must be submitted to the MCJLS during entry nights in February: Rockdale – Monday, February 10. Thorndale – Tuesday, February 11. Cameron – Tuesday February 18.

MCJLS Animal Update

Entry Nights: If you are planning on showing at the MCJLS in March you must submit entry forms and fees during one of the entry nights in February. Here are the dates - : Rockdale I.S.D. Ag Building – Monday, February 10. Thorndale I.S.D. Ag Building – Tuesday, February 11. Cameron YEB – Tuesday February 18. You can submit entries from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. during the entry nights. Remember to complete one entry form for each animal.

MCJLS Broiler Pick-Up: 4-Hers and FFA members that ordered broilers for the MCJLS will need to prepare their facilities. Broiler pick-up will be Wednesday, February 12, 2014 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Youth Exposition Building in Cameron.

Market Rabbit Tattooing: MCJLS rabbit entries must be tattooed on February 18, 2014 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at the YEB in Cameron. You can submit your entry form and fee when you tattoo your rabbits.

Texas Brigades Wildlife Camps

4-Her ages 13 to 17 can submit applications for Texas Brigade Wildlife Camps conducted this summer. The Texas Brigades offers five types of outdoor camps for our youth. Each camp not only teaches the cadets about wildlife conservation, but also about how to become a leader in today's society. Cadets will learn about plant ID, shooting and angling skills, radio telemetry, public speaking, and even television and radio interview skills.

For details on the camp options, you can click on the application website listed in this release, but here is a brief summary of the camps:

- Bobwhite Brigade – This camp will teach more than you can imagine about Bobwhite Quail. Two camps are offered in June.

- Buckskin Brigade – This camp is for the deer enthusiasts that want to learn. One camp in June and one in July
- Waterfowl Brigade – This camp is for those interested in ducks and other waterbirds. One camp is held in July.
- Bass Brigade – This camp is for those that like to fish for bass. One camp in July.
- Ranch Brigade – NEW – One camp in July.

Texas Brigades is proud to work with a new group of volunteers who are organizing the Ranch Brigade. This 5-day program will encompass sustainable beef production from conception to consumer. The Brigade model of leadership development, education, and empowerment will be just like other Brigade programs.

Livestock production and land stewardship are areas we cannot take for granted. More and more students will graduate from high school without any exposure to production agriculture. The purpose of Ranch Brigade is to select 20 of the brightest and best high school students from across the state so that they can become ambassadors of land stewardship and livestock production in their respective communities. This select group of students will spend five days of intensive training to develop leadership skills, and learn the truth about livestock production from conception to the consumer. They will then give presentations in their communities, and in turn be rewarded through scholarships and future ranch experiences.

Registration is open now through March 15, 2014. Applications are available at the following website – <http://www.texasbrigades.org/Camps/camps.html>. If you are thinking about applying for one of the camps, contact the Extension Office to discuss possible assistance with the \$400 registration fee. The fee covers meals, lodging, and supplies. All of the 4-Hers who have attended the brigades enjoyed the experience and learned a lot of wildlife conservation.

Sign-Up to Help

We need 4-Hers and adults to help plan and conduct activities and trainings this spring and summer. This is a great way to build leadership experiences for your recordbooks and future scholarship applications. Look at the listing of opportunities below and let the Extension Office know if you can help. We need your ideas to plan activities that will be of interest to our members. You can email your interests - ce-walker@tamu.edu

Listing of Current Opportunities:

- Ag in the Classroom – May 20
- Food and Consumer Workshop – June/July
- Clothing Workshop – June/July
- Farm Bureau Citizenship Day – June/July
- Beginner Workshop in Gause – June
- Animal Clinics
- Wildlife/Fishing Workshop
- Water Workshop – June/July

Congratulations to Horse Judging Teams

Congratulations to the Milam County 4-H Horse Judging teams. These teams competed at an invitational contest in Bay City on January 31st. Three teams completed in the contest: 6th place team - Darci Denio, Gracen Dach, and Raegan Harris; 9th place team - Emily Graham, Jazmin Vaculin, Sydney Vaculin; 13th place team - Joseph Barbo, Colby Barton, Connor Barton, and

Mason Vaculin. Darci Denio was also recognized as 5th place individual. Congratulations also goes out to the horse judging coach, Monica Barton.

This invitational was a great opportunity for the team members to practice for the Houston Livestock Show and San Antonio Livestock Show contests in February and March.

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