



## Lavaca County 4-H News March 17, 2023

always keep an eye on <https://lavaca.agrilife.org/> and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LavacaCounty4H>.

### Congrats to our teams who competed at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Food Challenge:

Slicers & Dicers: Bethany Kram, Brodie Barta, and Taylor Self – 5<sup>th</sup> place Jr. Appetizer

Country Cooking Cowgirls: Abigail Siegel, Katie Richter, Brooke Rothbauer, and Addisyn Greive- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Junior Main Dish

IncrEdibles: Kara Remschel, Jenna Pohler, Callie Chrismon, and Keely Knesek – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Senior Main Dish



## Mark Your Calendars

April 4 – County Photography Entries available to be picked up

May 8 – County Council

June 5-8 – Texas 4-H Round-Up

June 13 – County Record Books and Awards Applications Due

(This year's awards applications will be made available by the end of April)

June 14-16 – District Leadership Lab

June 22 – County Awards Interviews

August 1 – 4-H Banquet – Hallettsville Youth Center

## Scholarship Deadlines:

Lavaca County Local Go Texan Scholarship – due April 1-pick up application at the Extension office

Lavaca County 4-H Council – due with recordbooks on June 13

## County Spring Spectacular Participants

Karlie Hotz – Junior Fashion Show

Emma Henderson – Junior Consumer Decision Making

Lacy Henderson – Junior Consumer Decision Making

Annabelle Ischy – Junior Consumer Decision Making & Talent Show Case – Poetry

Lily Janak – Junior Consumer Decision Making & Talent Show Case – Instrumental

Blair Kudelka – Clover Fashion Show, Storyboard & Talent Showcase – Vocal

Adalyn Pohl – Senior Public Speaking

Amanda Janak – Senior Fashion Show

Keely Knesek – Senior Fashion Show, Talent Showcase – Choreographed Routine & Poetry

## Major Show Steer and Heifer Tag Orders

Major show steer and heifer tag orders will be due in the Extension Office by **March 31**. **Please note this is earlier than normal.** Other than the earlier deadline, the steer validation process will remain the same.

**\*\*NEW\*\* FOR 2023** all state validated heifers will be tagged similar to steers. This will bring the heifer validation program in line with breeding sheep, breeding goats, and breeding gilts. Please order tags accordingly. This is a change from the heifer UINs where you were charged based on animals validated, not ordered. **Those planning to show a heifer at any major livestock show must order and pay for a tag by the deadline.** Please order accurately. No refunds will be given for unused tags. As in the past, there will be a second heifer validation in October.

The order form is on the county website.

## State Fair Lamb and Goat Tag Orders

State Fair Lamb and Goat tags are due in the Extension Office by **March 31**. Order form is attached in this newsletter and on the county website.

**\*NEW FOR 2023\*** Lambs and goats validated during the 2023 State Fair Validation Period WILL BE ELIGIBLE for 2024 Spring Major Shows. Market animals validated for the 2023 State Fair will carryover for 2024 Spring Major Shows. Once validated, the project MUST stay in the care of the exhibitor that project is validated to; if the exhibitor chooses to sell the project to a new exhibitor, the new exhibitor MUST REVALIDATE the project within the next validation period. Please see the Validation Guidelines for more details.

## State Level Leadership Opportunities

<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/ambassadors/>

*A great way to get involved!*

We currently have three State Ambassadors in Lavaca County.

Abigail Hill – Livestock, Adalyn Pohl – STEM, and Keely Knesek – Healthy Texas

If you are in the 8<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> grade and would like project related leadership opportunities apply for an ambassador position! Some of the deadlines are quickly approaching.

Equine – April 15

Fashion and Interior Design (typically late April)

Healthy Texas – March 15

Livestock – April 15

Poultry – April 15

Photography – typically summer

Shooting Sports – typically summer

STEM – typically summer

Water – May 1

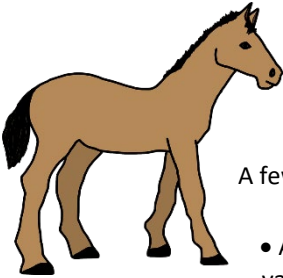
Another Leadership Opportunity is to run for Delegate at Large to serve on the State 4-H Council. Approximately twelve candidates will be chosen for six spots. The candidate packet is posted on the leadership page with the ambassador information linked above.

## Texas 4-H Summer Camp Ambassador



The 4-H Center is looking for members who will have completed 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade this summer to serve as camp ambassadors. Working alongside summer staff, camp ambassadors serve as activity leaders and mentors to campers. This is a great way to earn state level volunteer leadership at one or more camps this summer. There will be a Teen Weekend at the Texas 4-H Center focused on training for this role on May 5-7, 2023. If you are interested in serving as a teen counselor or attending Teen Weekend (or both) call or email Natalie for details and contact information.

## Horse Validation



Texas 4-H Horse Validation for the 2023 season **will be open in 4H Online from March 1 – May 1, 2023.** Please see the attached guidelines for families and County Extension Agents.

A few important reminders:

- ALL horses must be validated/re-validated each year. There is no limit to the number of horses that can be validated. You are encouraged to validate all horses that may possibly be shown at district and/or state shows. Only state validated horses can be substituted in the event that a validated horse becomes unusable due to lameness, sickness, etc.
- The family can submit payment of \$10.00 per horse (\$20.00 after April 15<sup>th</sup>, or \$250 from May 1<sup>st</sup> to May 5<sup>th</sup>), in the form of a **credit card ONLY**.
  - **From March 1 – April 15, the validation cost for each horse is \$10.00. The \$10.00 cost is only guaranteed if the animal validation is approved by the county office by the April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline and the payment is processed.**
  - **From April 16 – May 1, the validation cost for each horse is \$20.00. The \$20.00 cost is only guaranteed if the animal validation is approved by the county office by the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline and the payment is processed.**
- Each validation must include front view, right side view, and left side view images. **The entire horse should be included in the photo and markings should be clearly visible.**
- **If the horse is registered, a copy of the registration papers must be uploaded.** These papers must list the 4-Her, sibling, parent, stepparent, grandparent or legal guardian as the current owner. If the ownership is in the process of being transferred, please list “pending” in the registration number area. Once the updated registration papers have been received, please email me a copy of the new papers and I will add it to the validation.
- **\*NEW IN 2023\*** - Lease horses are now eligible to be validated and shown at District and State 4-H Horse Shows. An official Texas 4-H Horse Lease Agreement must be signed by the exhibitor, horse owner, and the supervising County Extension Agent. The lease period must include, at minimum, May 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> of the current 4-H year. The lease agreement form can be found at <https://texasyouthlivestock.com/horse-validation/> and must be uploaded to 4H Online at the time of validation.
- Image uploads in 4H Online must be in the form of a .jpg, .gif or .png file.
- **Families should validate each horse only one time.** Once the horse is validated, any sibling within that family is eligible to show the horse at their district show and/or the State 4-H Horse Show.
- **Youth validating a futurity horse must be at least 12 years of age (as of Sept. 1, 2022) and at least in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.**

Validation walk-through guide for families: [https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/4honline\\_family\\_guide\\_horse\\_validation\\_2023.pdf](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/4honline_family_guide_horse_validation_2023.pdf)

- For additional one-pagers and other resources, please visit <https://texasyouthlivestock.com/horse-validation/>
- Validation walk-through video: <https://youtu.be/OPoOmyC1kTk>
- The family will receive an automated message from 4-H Online when the County Extension Agent has approved the horse at the county level. **This approval does NOT guarantee eligibility.** After it is approved at the county level, the validation will then be reviewed at the state level. The family will be notified by June 1<sup>st</sup> if there are any issues with the validation at the state level.
  - We will begin to review validations at the state level on March 1<sup>st</sup> and will be working closely with families and agents to fix errors as quickly as possible prior to the validation deadline.

## Fun at the Texas 4-H Center! Register at <https://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu> Early Bird Registration is Open at the Texas 4-H Center



County Camp – Grades 3-9

I – June 25-29

II – July 9-13

Traditional camp experiences ideal for total family groups.

Horizons -July 2-6– Grades 4-8

Sign up for a specific project: Hunting, Fashion, Shooting

Other projects to be added soon

Prime Time

I – July 16-19 – Grades 3-5

II – July 19-22 – Grades 6-9

Traditional camp experiences with less age differences than county camp.

High Adventure – age 10-15

June 18-20

Outdoor /High Energy

### Reimbursement for Select Activities

The reimbursement policy was approved by the council and remains the same for 2023. Members may request reimbursement for a number of activities including participation at the Texas 4-H Center and entry fees for 4-H contests. Refer to the policy for details. Go to

<http://counties.agrilife.org/lavaca/files/2022/01/Lavaca-County-4-H-Reimbursement-Policy-and-Forms.pdf> to access the policy and forms.

*Remember, also, to read the weekly e-mails you receive from Texas 4-H as they often have opportunities that do not get mentioned in this update.* This update is sent via email to all actively enrolled members and leaders. It is also posted on the county website. If you know of someone who is not receiving the updates, please have them check their Spam folders and their enrollment. Thanks!

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension 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 Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in any Extension activity, are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office (361)798-2221 to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.