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Hallettsville, TX 77964
361-798-2221

Lavaca County 4-H News *December 1, 2023*

<https://lavaca.agrilife.org/> <https://www.facebook.com/LavacaCounty4H>.

Hallettsville Junior Livestock Show

Hallettsville Junior Livestock Show broiler distribution will be on December 8 at the Lavaca Expo Center office. A \$10 validation fee will be collected from each exhibitor at distribution.

HJLS entry cards, entry fee of \$10 per card and project report forms are due in the Extension Office TODAY!



Stop by Grafe Chevrolet and pick a card to make this Christmas season a little brighter for the senior citizens of Lavaca County.

Murdoch's Ranch and Home Supply – Discount and Christmas Wrapping

The new Murdoch's store in the Mall of Victoria reached out to let us know that they provide 10% discounts to all 4-H members. Just tell them at the register what club you belong to and they will give you a discount card.



Murdoch's is seeking groups of 4-5 members/leaders to assist with Christmas wrapping this holiday season. If you would be interested in working a four hour shift at the mall as a community service activity please let Natalie know and she can put you in touch with the manager at Murdochs. There are both weekend and evening shifts currently available.

Coastal Bend Classic

All Texas 4-H and FFA members are invited to participate in the 13th Annual Coastal Bend Classic.

Date: December 2, 2023

Location: San Patricio County Fairgrounds, Sinton, TX

Entry/Registration Deadline: Regular Registration – September 18 – November 27 (8pm). -\$35 Late Registration – November 27 (8:01pm) – Day of event.- \$60

[2023 – 2024 Coastal Bend Classic Information & Rules](#)

[2023 – 2024 Coastal Bend Classic flyer](#)

[Waiver, Indemnification, Medical Treatment Authorization Form](#) (All youth must bring in or mail to the address below) youth will not be allowed to participate without a signed consent form.

Register through Eventbrite via the [Eventbrite link](#) or QR code. (Credit Card/Debit or PayPal)



Record Book Corner

What do you mean I have to write a story?

The Story and Photo portfolio is your opportunity to show your personality and include details that might not come out in your report forms. It is an autobiography of your 4-H experience. Use the chart on page five of the family guide as your directive on the required length for your age group. Page six of the family guide will give you the specifics on how to write the story. You should include:

- The correct title - "My 4-H (put your record book category) Story and Photo Portfolio".
- Introduction of yourself -do not start – Hi My Name is – look for a catchy and creative way to way to get the reader’s attention. Include information about you, your family, and community. Remember this is a your 4-H Record book -so keep it focused there.
- When and why did you join 4-H
- Starting with the project you are entering your book in, talk about your goals and what you have learned and accomplished with each of your project. This is a great place to talk about failures, as well –and what you learned from not succeeding.
- Talk about how 4-H has made you a better leader and citizen.
- Include your career goals.



Attention All Livestock Exhibitors

Please make sure you check the rules and schedule for the show in which you are participating.

It is the responsibility of each 4-Her to read, understand, and follow the rules of each activity they participate in. This especially holds true for local and major livestock shows, as consequences for breaking the rules can be quite significant. Please contact the Extension Office if questions should arise.

Medications:

4-H livestock exhibitors should be aware of the withdrawal times on medications and medicated feeds being given to show animals. Technically withdrawal time should be calculated from the time the animal arrives at the show. Please contact your veterinarian or feed dealer if there are any questions. Animals with illegal chemicals found in their system will be disqualified.

Scales:

Lavaca County 4-H has two scales for weighing swine, lambs and goats that can be checked out. Please call the Extension Office to book a scale. Please remember when you transport the scale, it must be locked down. This keeps the cables from breaking. Also make sure you clean the scale before returning it to the 4-H building. **PLEASE NOTE: DO NOT BRING ANIMALS INTO THE 4-H BUILDING.**

Clippers:

Lavaca County 4-H has animal clippers that can be checked out. Please call the Extension Office to book them. **Clippers are checked out without blades. It is each families responsibility to have blades for their projects.** Below is a list of suggested blades to purchase for use on the 4-H clippers

Steers (slick shear):

Oster 83-84

Goats:

Lister Cover Cote blades

Lambs:

Lister 2241 Fine

Swine:

Andis #10 blade to be used with guards

Teen Retreat at the Texas 4-H Conference Center

January 5-7, 2023

Grades 9-12

\$100 for participants

(county will reimburse \$50 with the form filed after attending)

Adult Chaperones are FREE

Deadline December 29, 2023

This is a statewide leadership training. Senior level 4-H members are encouraged to attend to participate in leadership workshops so that they may bring the skills and activities back to their clubs and community. Activities will be focused on team building, leadership, and citizenship. Improvements and additions have been made recently to the high ropes course and will be part of the activities! Natalie is planning to attend but other adult volunteers are also encouraged to help chaperone. Male chaperones are always needed. For more information and to register go to

<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/Texas4HConferenceCenter#/selectSessions/3391637>

Photography Project Information

Photography Project Workshop and Scavenger Hunt

Invite your friends! Bring a camera (or smart phone) and come prepared to learn some basics about photography and have fun while hunting great shots.

When: Thursday, December 21, 2023 @ 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Where: Meet at the pavilion beside the Tennis Courts in Green Dickson Park in Shiner

Please call the office at 361-798-2221 to RSVP and watch the Facebook page for location change if the weather is inclement.

NATURAL RESOURCES PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

We are excited to announce the continuation of the state-level Natural Resource Photography Contest. It is open to junior, intermediate, and senior members, and categories are focused solely on the Natural Resource project areas. Here are a few key points:

- Open contest (no qualifying required) to all counties
- **Open to juniors, intermediate, and senior age divisions**
- 10 Natural Resource themed categories
- Same scoring matrix and general rules as the state contest
- Entry timeline is December 1-15
- No late entries accepted

The Lavaca County 4-H Photography Contest will be digital this year. In the past our participants have submitted 8 x 10 photos –we are no longer going to use printed pictures. More details on the county contest will be posted in the next newsletter. The County Contest will use the State Photography Contest categories and rules. Jrs and Intermediates who place first at county advance to District. First place senior entries advance directly to state.

STATE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

The rules for the 2023-2024 state contest are also attached. 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 timeline is April 1-15
- No late entries accepted

Go to the Photography project page to access the categories and rules for each contest: <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/photography-video/>

Jerky Jackpot

Don't forget that you can order jerky at <https://texas4hfoundation.givecloud.co/texas-4-h-jerky-jackpot> and all of the profits come back to Lavaca County 4-H. This fundraiser put on by the 4-H Foundation runs through the end of the year. Details have been in your weekly Texas 4-H newsletters.

The 2024 Texas 4-H Roundup Handbook is now posted at <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/roundup/> Opportunities for our members increase significantly in junior high and high school. State 4-H Round-Up is the highlight of the Texas 4-H program each year and an opportunity for our teen leaders to come together to learn about leadership and career development and compete in dozens of contests. Some of the contests are qualifying events while others are invitational. If you are a senior level 4-H member Texas 4-H Round-Up participation should be one of your goals.

The Bee County 4-H Council Presents
The 4th Annual
"Bee" Jolly Showdown
Steer & Heifer Show
Saturday, December 16, 2023
Bee County Expo Center Arena

Ring A & B \$60 Entry All Proceeds Benefit
17 Breed Format Judges Bee County 4-H

Over \$6,000 in CASH & PRIZES
**Showmanship \$5 at the gate,
winner takes ALL
***Make your calf "jolly" decorating
contest, \$5 at gate, winner takes ALL

Landen Gulick 361.621.1552
Penny Green-Rios 210.859.5525

Scholarship Information

All graduating members with approved enrollments received an email on November 17 from Natalie with applications attached to several scholarships. All scholarships that we have information at the Extension office for have been updated on our county website at <https://lavaca.agrilife.org/4-h/scholarships/>.



SPEAKERS & JUDGES

December 8-10, 2023 | Brazos County Expo

\$40/family early bird special until 12/4

Registration & More info here:

<https://walker.agrilife.org/4h/southern-classic-registration/>



Speaker: Connor Hardy
Judge: Cooper Thompson



Speaker: Dr. Jeff Ripley
Judge: Abby Johnson



Speaker & Judge: Kinsey Gardner

Speaker: Dr. Jason Cleere
Judges: Harrison Smith (heifers)
Levi Douglas (steers)



Speaker: The Smith Family
from CAC Rabbitry

Speaker: Texas A&M Poultry
Science Extension



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.

PROSPECT PIG SHOW

SEGUIN, TEXAS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

SHOW TO BE HELD AT THE GUADALUPE CO. FAIRGROUNDS

SEGUIN SWINE BREEDERS

18TH ANNUAL PROSPECT SHOW DEC. 10, 2023

- GRAND CHAMPION \$600.00 RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION \$400.00 !!!!
- Judge—Taylor Osbourn
- SHOW FORMAT: FOLLOWING SHOWMANSHIP—BERK, DUROC, HAMPSHIRE, YORKSHIRE, DARK OPB, LIGHT OPB, CROSS
- 9:00 AM WEIGHT CARDS DUE
- **BUCKLES FOR ALL BREED CHAMPIONS.** PLAQUES FOR RESERVE CHAMPIONS
- SHOWMANSHIP 9:00 AM—\$5/entry taken day of show - PEE WEE ≥ 8, JUNIOR 9-13, SENIOR 14 & OVER

BARROWS & GILTS SHOW TOGETHER **CONTACT: TRAVIS FRANKE**
NO BOARS OVER 125 lbs. **830-379-1972**

TEXAS 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

National 4-H Conference - April 19-24, 2024

WHAT IS NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE?

National 4-H Conference is the Secretary of Agriculture's premier youth development opportunity to engage youth in developing recommendations for the 4-H Youth Development Program. If you want to strengthen your leadership and/or citizenship projects, this is an excellent opportunity.

National 4-H Conference is a working conference in which youth and adults--at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture--assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development Programs nationally and in their communities. This event brings together youth, volunteer leaders, and state and county Extension staff members from across the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the Canadian Provinces.

As the sponsor for this conference, the National 4-H Headquarters--located within Families, 4-H, and Nutrition at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) --is charged with sharing the recommendations that emerge from the conference with the Secretary of Agriculture, national Extension Program Leaders, and others who determine 4-H programs. Each delegate chooses an important societal topic to discuss in a roundtable situation with other delegates. From the roundtable discussion, the groups prepare a briefing to present to federal stakeholders. This experiential approach ensures that the conference is a meaningful experience for the youth and adult participants. Social activities in the evening, tours of Monuments and Museums and cultural entertainment round out the conference.

For a true youth view of the National Conference experience, please see the quotes on the next page!

LOCATION:

The 2023 National 4-H Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City – Arlington, VA. It is right by the Ronald Reagan National Airport and approximately 5 miles from the Nation's Capitol, making it the perfect gateway to Washington, D.C.'s leaders, monuments and museums.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The National 4-H Conference requires youth who are focused and committed to working during the Conference and in their state. The Texas delegation will consist of 10-20 youth delegates, who will be required to engage in pre- and post-conference work and participate in all scheduled conference activities. The minimum age requirement for a Texas youth delegate is 15 years old (must be by January 1, 2024). The maximum age for a Texas youth delegate is 18.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Applications will open on December 1, 2023. Applications must be submitted online and certified through 4HOnline by December 15, 2023. Choose '2024 National 4-H Conference Delegate Application'. A fee is NOT required to complete the application. County Extension Office personnel will certify the application, so please communicate with your Extension Agent of your intent to apply. Final selection of delegates will be made on the basis of the online application; you may be contacted for a telephone interview. The final selection of delegates will be announced on, or before, January 17, 2024.

COST:

The delegate's share of registration, adult chaperone registration(s), lodging, airfare, meals, and transportation costs between \$2,000.00- 2,500.00. Once we receive the information from Nationals and can look at additional costs, we will let selected participants know the final cost. This registration fee will be due on February 1, 2024 payable through 4-HOnline.

TEXAS DELEGATION MEETING LOCATION:

The Texas delegation will travel out of Houston, Austin, San Antonio or Dallas (depending on the cost of airline tickets and the geographical makeup of the delegation). All travel costs to the airport to meet the group is the responsibility of the delegate.

Reimbursement for Select Activities

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.

There are LOTS of opportunities that do not get included in this newsletter. Make sure you are also reading the weekly email from Texas 4-H and following Texas 4-H on social media so you do not miss out. There is just more than we can possibly keep up with and share. If you participate in something, please send us a picture or two and let us know what you learned and what you did so we can spotlight you in this newsletter or on our Facebook page!