



300 S. LaGrange Street
Hallettsville, TX 77964
361-798-2221

Lavaca County 4-H News December 15, 2023

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

Note: The next newsletter will not be sent until January 5, 2024.

Congratulations to our District Food Show and Food Challenge Participants!



Food Challenge 2nd Place – Junior Appetizers- Cooksters
Chloe Jansky
Claire Janak
Kolet Olsovsky
Emery Haas



Food Show: Amanda Janak, Alaina Bogle, and Olivia Gonzales



Food Challenge: Cooksters; Sugar-N-Spice: Raleigh Moore, Madison Coburn, August Dodson, Avery Garcia; Souper Friends: Baye Shimek, Khloe Olsovsky, Lily Janak; Saute' Brigade: Keely Knesek, Callie Chrismon, Kara Remschel, and Jenna Pohler

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. The workshop is open to all youth K-12. **All participants in fourth grade or below must be accompanied by a parent or teen leader.**



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 by December 20 and watch the Facebook page for location change if the weather is inclement.

How do I decide which photos to put in my recordbook?

The photos that you include in your recordbook should help tell your story and demonstrate what you are learning or doing. For this reason, you want to select mostly pictures that are action shots of the work you put in. You should have more photos of the main project that you have entered as your category than of your other pictures. Avoid posing pictures. For example if you entered the Swine category, you might have pictures of you helping build a pen, feeding, and weighing. If you have photography as one of your projects, you may want to include one of your photos from this year. Unless it is a photography project photo, you should be in the picture.

How and where do I put them? There is not right and wrong placement of your pictures as long as you follow the page requirements in the Family Guide. Some people choose to embed their pictures throughout the story while others will put all pictures at the end on three pages. Either way, your pictures should make sense to where you have placed them and should show growth and learning.

Can I have pictures from previous years? Yes, but be careful to have more pictures from this year than previous ones. You don't want your story to look like you did not update it from the previous year.

Do I have to use captions? Captions are optional. Be consistent if you use captions put a caption in the same style on all pictures. Natalie prefers captions that have action verbs that explain what you are doing or learning. Try to be concise. Phrases instead of sentences are okay if you keep this style throughout.



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://texas4hcenter.tamu.edu/>

Youth Day at the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo

4-H, FFA, & FCCLA members from across South Central Texas gather at the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo to showcase their talents, organization activities and project work. Members set up exhibits and hands-on activity booths for visitors and guests attending the Stock Show & Rodeo. An additional activity to this event is the Wagon & Wheelbarrow Parade. Youth Day is hosted by the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo School Tours Committee on - Saturday February 10, 2024.

Below is a schedule for the day's activities.

8:30 a.m.	Open for Exhibitors
10:00 a.m. - 4:30p.m.	Interactive & informative Exhibits and Activities
12:00 Noon	Youth Day Best of Show Awards Presented
2:30 p.m.	Line Up for Wagon & Wheelbarrow Parade
3:00 p.m.	Wagon & Wheelbarrow Parade
4:30 p.m.	Exhibits close

The deadline for entries is January 12th, 2024. The link to register for youth day is <https://www.sarodeo.com/f/75>. Registration is per club, so you will need to coordinate activities with others in your club prior to registering and have your club manager or appointed adult volunteer complete the registration. If your club decides to participate, please let the office know. All passes and information will be sent to the county office.

When registering, include the total number of youth and adults that you expect to participate in activities and your exhibit. List the county office address: 300 S. LaGrange Street, Hallettsville, TX 77964. **You are invited to participate in as many Youth Day activities as you would like but please note that there will only be one exhibit table for each club or chapter.**

Photography Project Information

NATURAL RESOURCES PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST—Entries due by 11:59 p.m. tonight!!

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 judge printed pictures.** The contest guidelines are available on the county website and linked here: <https://lavaca.agrilife.org/event/lavaca-county-4-h-photography-contest-entries-due-by-february-1-at-500-p-m/> 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/>

Hoof Trimming

Friday, December 29
HISD Ag Pavilion.

Matt Leopold will be trimming the hooves.
This is the **LAST CHANCE TO GET THIS DONE.**
WE WILL NOT SCHEDULE ANOTHER ONE.

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.

State Dog Show Validation

Texas 4-H Dog Show will be held on July 11-13, 2024 at the Walker County Fairgrounds in Huntsville, Texas. To be eligible for this show, dogs must be validated by January 10, 2024 in 4-H Online. Attached are detailed written instructions. Video instructions are also available at <https://youtu.be/3NzoliK9Pco> if that is more convenient. 2024 Texas 4-H Dog Show Rule Book will be posted to <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/dog-care-training/> soon.

We strongly encourage members who are considering participating in the dog show to validate their dogs even if they are not sure they will be participating in the Texas 4-H Dog Show. Completing the FREE validation process before January 10th will give them until entries are due in May to make a final decision.

There will be a couple of opportunities to practice with your dog whether you validated or not.

- Montgomery County 4-H Dog Show will be February 3, 2024 at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in Conroe, Texas
- Brazos County 4-H Dog Show will be February 17, 2024
- Tarrant County 4-H Dog Show has been in April
- Wise County is has historically been done in June.

The state office will send details of each of these as soon as they have them available. Let the county office know if you are interested in receiving this information when it is released.

Leadership Opportunities at Rodeo Austin

Rodeo Austin is looking for members to lead the American and Texas Pledges and sing the National Anthem at each of these times. It looks like the pledges are first come first serve on the sign up genius so I did not want to wait for next weeks newsletter to share with you all.

- Market Steer Show (British, Shorthorn, Brahman, ABC, Black Cross - Friday, March 8th - Show starts at: 8:00 a.m.
- Market Steer Show (Red Cross and Other Cross) - Saturday, March 9th - Show starts at: 8:00 a.m.
- Market Poultry Show - Monday, March 11th - Show starts at: 10:00 a.m. (approximately)
- Jr. Wether Dam & Doe Show - Wednesday, March 13th - Show starts at: 8:00 a.m.
- Market Lamb & Goat Show - Friday, March 15th - Show starts at: 8:00 a.m.
- Barrow Show - (Duroc, OPB-Dark, OPB-White, Hampshire, Yorkshire)- Sunday, March 17th - Show starts at: 8:00 a.m.
- Barrow Show - (Light Crossbred, Crossbred) - Monday, March 18th - Show starts at : 8:00 a.m.
- Jr. Breeding Heifer Show Wave 1 (American) - Thursday, March 21st- Show starts at: 8:00 a.m.
- Jr. Breeding Heifer Show Wave 2 (British / Continental) - Saturday, March 23rd - Show starts at: 8:00 a.m.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4EA9AE2AA57-44691184-2024>

For those interested in this leadership opportunity, please sign up using the above link to the online form. You will need to plan to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the species show in which you are volunteering.

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.

County Council and Adult Leaders

January 8, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Extension Office

Reimbursement for Select Activities

Reimbursement requests for activities during this calendar year must be submitted by **Thursday, December 28.**

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.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at the Extension Office.

The office will be closed December 26, 26, 29 & January 1

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!

