



4-H Newsletter

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October 2015

IMPORTANT!!!

- QUALITY COUNTS A REQUIREMENT!!
- VALIDATION DATES
- HEIFER VALIDATIONS
- COUNTY FOOD SHOW
- FOOD & NUTRITION PROJECTS
- ENROLLMENT FOR 2015-2016
- 4-H RECORDBOOKS
- 4-H PROJECT RECORD KEEPING

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Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 National 4-H Week Begins 	5 Club Manager Meeting	6 State Fair of Texas Livestock Judging Contest	7 Tractor Supply Promo Begins D'Hanis 4-H Club Meeting @ 7:30 pm	8	9	10 National 4-H Week Ends One Day 4-H
11 Hondo 4-H Club Meetings @ 5 pm	12 Devine, Castroville & Rio Medina 4-H Club Meetings	13 Natalia & LaCoste 4-H Club Meetings Major Show Broiler Orders Due	14	15	16 Deadline for County Food Challenge and Food Show Registrations	17 Lamb & Goat Validations 8 am - 11 am
18 Tractor Supply Promo Ends	19 County Show Broiler Orders Due 1st Livestock Judging Practice	20	21	22 Livestock Judging Practice	23	24 County Food Show & Nutrition Quiz Bowl at St. Paul Lutheran Church
25	26 Livestock Judging Practice	27	28 County Food Challenge	29 Livestock Judging Practice	30	31 Heifer Validation 10:30 am - 12 pm

Coming in November






- Nov. 1st** - 4-H Enrollment Fee changes to \$25
- Nov. 11th** - Veteran's Day (Extension Office Closed)
- Nov. 14th** - Swine Validation (Fair Grounds)
- Nov. 17th** - County Council Meeting
- Nov. 18th - 20th** - Major Show Signup
- Nov. 26th - 27th** - Thanksgiving Holiday (Extension Office Closed on Thursday & Friday)
- Nov. 28th** - MCJLS Swine Prospect Show

Tractor Supply Promo Oct. 7th - Oct. 18th



November 2015



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
1 4-H Enrollment goes up to \$25 	2 Club Manager Meeting	3 Livestock Judging Practice	4 Major Show Sing-up for Ft. Worth 8am - 5pm D'Hanis 4-H Club Meetings	5 Prepare for Deer Season Program St. John's Catholic Church Hall @ 5:30 pm	6	7 Opening Day of Deer Season	
8 Hondo 4-H Club Meetings	9 Devine, Castroville, & Rio Medina 4-H Club Meetings	10 Natalia & LaCoste 4-H Club Meetings	11  Extension Office Closed	12 Livestock Judging Practice	13	14  Swine Validation at Fair Grounds	
15	16	17 County Council Meeting @ 7 pm	18 Major Show Sign-Up 8 AM- 5 PM At Extension Office			20 8 AM- 5 PM	21
22	23	24	25	26  Extension Office Closed for Thanksgiving	27	28  MCJLS Swine Prospect Show	
29	30						

December and January Highlights

December 5th - District Food Challenge & Food Show - Kerrville

December 11th - Target Date for Broiler Pick-up

December 24th - January 1st - Extension Office Closed

January 2nd - Rabbit Validation - Devine

January 13th - S.A.L.E. Broiler Pick-up (approximate date)

January 29th - H.L.S.R./AUSTIN Broiler Pick-up (approximate date)

LIVESTOCK PROJECT NEWS

VALIDATION DATES

Lambs & Goats	Sat., October 17th - Medina County Fair Grounds - 8 am to 11 am (Lamb & Goats are at the same time)
Heifers	Sat., October 31st - Medina County Fair Grounds in conjunction with the D'Hanis FFA Prospect Show - 10:30 am to noon
Swine	Sat., November 14th - Medina County Fair Grounds - 8 am to 11 am
Rabbits	Sat., January 2nd - Devine Ag Shop - 8 am to 10 am



ANIMALS FOR SALE

Breeder lists are available at the Extension Office. We also receive flyers on upcoming events.

The 2015 Fall Show Pig Sales Trail is available by email or in the Extension Office. Contact the office for more information.



RABBIT EXHIBITORS

Breeders lists are available in the Extension Office. If you have not contacted a breeder you need to as soon as possible.

QUALITY COUNTS VERIFICATION REQUIRED FOR ALL 2015-2016 Texas Major Livestock Shows



Quality Counts verification is required for all youth exhibiting livestock (market and/or breeding) at major livestock shows in Texas (including the Ft. Worth Livestock Show, San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Star of Texas Fair in Austin, San Angelo Livestock Show, Sandhills Stock Show in Odessa, State Fair of Texas in Dallas, and Heart O' Texas Fair in Waco). The verification process will require junior exhibitors to pass an online test that measures their knowledge on quality assurance and character education content items. The Quality Counts Program has now been in existence statewide for six years. Over this time, it has reached an average of 30,000 youth per year through the 4-H and FFA Programs. The program outcomes clearly demonstrate youth being more knowledgeable of best management practices associated with livestock projects. More importantly, the program's impact has demonstrated positive changes in personal character attributes as well as adoption of livestock best management practices.

If you have already taken the test you do not have to take it again unless you have taken the test as a Junior/Intermediate and have now turned 14. For more information contact Derrick Drury at 830-741-6180 or go to <http://qualitycounts.tamu.edu/>.

HEIFER VALIDATION PROGRAM

Texas is privileged to have the largest junior breeding heifer program in the nation. However, the sheer size of Texas, diversity in counties and beef breed associations has created some challenges for effectively and fairly managing the program. Because of numerous breed divisions offered, there are inconsistencies in how breed associations record purchase and transfer information. Heifer Validation is being initiated to ensure a level playing field for all junior breeding beef heifer exhibitors and to present a unified approach to verifying breeding beef heifer registration papers, ownership and physical possession.

Participating major livestock shows are requiring all junior breeding heifers to be tattooed, brands recorded and hair samples collected for the DNA Assay. All heifers must be validated by the County Validation Committee. Validation will take place **Saturday, October 31st** at the Fair Grounds Show Barn from 10:30 am to noon. This will be in conjunction with the D'Hanis FFA Prospect Show. Heifers not attending the prospect show or not halter broke can validate at Paul Aelvoet's farm south of Hondo at 1:00 pm. If you have any questions regarding Heifer Validation contact Derrick Drury at 830-741-6180.

2016 MCJLS RULE CHANGES

At the April 2015 Medina County Junior Livestock Show Board meeting there were some rule changes made. The new rules will be handed out at all validations or can be obtained at the County Extension Office. **One change was the minimum weight for hogs is now 150 lbs.** These rules can be viewed on our website: <http://medina.agrilife.org/publications/>

PROSPECT SHOWS

D'Hanis FFA Invitational Prospect Show	- Hondo TX	October 31st
South Texas Double Trouble Steer and Heifer Show	- Pleasanton TX	November 7th
MCJLS Swine Prospect Show	- Hondo TX	November 28th
Hondo FFA Prospect Show	- Hondo TX	December 12th

For more information, please contact the Extension Office at 830-741-6180 or for more listings visit: <http://theshowbox.com>

HORSE CORNER



HORSE JUDGING

There will be a meeting on **October 15th** following the Horse Club meeting. If you are interested in participating in horse judging, contact Russell Simpson at 405-473-2151



4-H HORSE CLUB

If you are interested in the 4-H Horse Club, please contact Melissa Brown at 830-317-0343.

Meeting dates and times:

Oct. 15th - 6:30 pm & Nov. 12th - 6:30 pm
Hermann Son's Lodge in Devine

LIVESTOCK JUDGERS

The 1st meeting will be on **October 19th** at 6:00 pm at the Extension Office. Coach/CEA Derrick Drury will host an informational meeting over livestock judging and what we plan to do.

If you are interested in judging livestock, plan on attending. **New members are welcome!** For more information call Derrick Drury at the Extension Office 830-741-6180.



FOOD & NUTRITION PROJECTS

It's time to fire up the grill and get cooking... the 4-H Food and Nutrition projects began in September. The food and nutrition project helps participants learn to make healthy food choices, improve energy and alertness, reduce disease and illness risks, and gain knowledge of nutrients. Major learning experiences are centered around nutrition, menu planning, food buying, preparation and food safety, careers, and cultural influences.

Here are a few things you may want to get involved in:

- 4-H Food and Nutrition Quiz Bowl
- 4-H Food Show
- Food Challenge
- Recipe Rally
- SpecTra - Human Sciences Education (limited to 22 senior participants)



Rules and Guidelines for the Food Show and Food Challenge are available in the Extension Office and online at: <http://medina.agrilife.org/publications/4h-club-resources/>. The County Food Show will be on **Saturday, October 24th at the St. Paul Lutheran Church from 9 am - 11 am** and the County Food Challenge will be on **October 28th**.

Deadline for County Food Show and County Food Challenge is October 17th and S.A.L.E. Food Challenge deadline is November 16th.

If you are interested in the Nutrition Quiz Bowl there will be a practice session during the County Food Show.

If you would like more information regarding any of these competitions, please call the Extension Office at 830-741-6180.

SALE offers contests outside the ring. Top winners awarded scholarships.

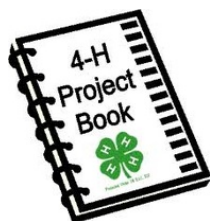
Food Challenge: The San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo hosts a Food Challenge Show modeled after the hit TV Series "Iron Chef." This Food Challenge gives both FFA and 4-H students from across Texas the chance to showcase their cooking skills, but also requires the students to know preparation, nutritional facts, and origins of ingredients. Exhibitors compete as individuals in this competition in which they are randomly assigned into one of four categories: Bread & Cereal, Fruit & Vegetable, Main Dish, and Nutritious Snacks. The top placing exhibitors in each category advance to the Final Challenge for additional prizes and awards.

Junior Judging Contests: Junior Judging Contests are popular to Texas 4-H and FFA participants because of their value in terms of developing critical thinking and communication skills. A broad variety of contests are hosted each year at the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo to meet the diverse interests of our exhibitors. Exhibitors may compete as individuals or in teams in the following contests: Consumer Decision Making, Dairy Judging, Horse Bowl, Horse Judging, Livestock Judging, Meat Judging, Poultry Judging, Wildlife Habitat, and Wool Judging.

For schedules, additional information and rules see the SALE website. Entries and fees are due in the County Extension Office by **Monday, November 16th**. The entry form for entering these contests can be found at: <http://medina.agrilife.org/publications/4h-club-resources/>

RECORDKEEPING

4-H RECORDBOOKS



It's time to start keeping records for your 2015-2016 Projects. Keeping records is a great way to hold on to your memories about your incredible adventures in 4-H. Record keeping is also a great way to develop skills in time management, communication, setting goals and deadlines, money management and project evaluations. In an effort to update the current recordbook system a committee has developed an online program with a data entry system that easily allows for updates, editing and printing.

- There will be three (3) levels of recordbooks based on 4-H age (junior, intermediate, and senior). Information requested for each level will progressively add on to each other. The junior & intermediate books are significantly simplified from past recordbooks. The senior level book is similar to the past record book with some minor edits.
- Parts of the report form will be standardized to allow for ease of completion and judging.
- Much of the data from previous recordbooks that a member may have saved on their home computer may be "cut and pasted" into the new form.
- All 4-H members will begin using the new online forms or a new paper form that will be available for download from the Texas 4-H website.
- Recordbooks will still be printed and turned in (in hardcopy form) to be judged by the deadline set by your local County Extension Office.

This system is available for use at:
http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/youth_recordbooks

4-H PROJECT RECORD FORMS FOR ALL ANIMAL AND POULTRY PROJECTS

Record keeping is an important part of the 4-H Program and a good life skill to have. Records teach the skill of record keeping, encourage good work, show progress, growth and accomplishment, helps direct future plans and helps determine recognition.



The 4-H Project Record should not be confused with the "big" project recordbook in 4-H. This record is solely on your animal or poultry project and must be turned in at the end of your animal project. This is the record that is turned in along with your "thank you" notes after the County show.

As your project is conducted, management and activity records should be kept on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. At the end of your project summarize your project and reflect on specific things you learned in your project, list all activities you participated in your project, list awards and recognition you received, any leadership you may have displayed and any community service related to your project.

Again, this is a great way to plan for future projects as well as show your progress, growth and accomplishments.

For more information on this record form call the Extension Office. You can find the form on the Medina County AgriLife Extension website:

<http://medina.agrilife.org/publications/livestock-projects/>

ENROLLMENT FOR 2015-2016 4-H YEAR IS IN FULL SWING!

Each year youth and volunteers must register to be an active member of Medina County 4-H. Don't miss out on all the fun projects and workshops provided to 4-H members, receive our monthly newsletter, and join the millions of youth worldwide who "Make The Best Better". Enrollment will be on 4-H Connect at: <https://texas.4honline.com>.

Here are some tips in using 4-H CONNECT:

- If you already have a profile **DO NOT create another one!**
- If you are new to 4-H, set up a profile and follow the prompts.
- Make sure to fill out the Health Form on page 3.
- If you lost your email and password—call your county office they can tell you your e-mail address and reset your password!
- To be an official 4-H member in Texas 4-H you must have an Active profile in 4-H Connect!
- An active membership will not be granted until participation fee is paid
- You cannot register for an event until your profile is ACTIVE.

Participation Fee
 \$20 now through
 Oct. 31st
 \$25 starting
 Nov. 1st



If you have any questions or cannot access 4-H Connect please call the Extension Office at 830-741-6180.

Club Managers

4-H Club	Manager(s)	Phone #
Castroville	Leticia Teague	830-534-5310
	Aris Vogt	210-274-1096
	Beth Zinsmeyer	210-391-5188
Devine Jr. (3rd-12th)	Katherine Hines	210-857-2475
	Jason Skow	210-487-0722
	Stacy Skow	210-633-6499
	John Naegelin	210-218-9097
D'Hanis	Letha Garrison	830-931-4147
	Laurie Henefey	830-426-6260
Hondo Intermediate (3rd-5th)	Jennifer Thigpen	830-426-1963
	Nichole Steubing	830-423-4589
Hondo Jr. (6th-8th)	Buffie Rogge	830-741-2195
	Laurie Lentz	210-213-2088
Hondo High (9th-12th)	Sandy Steubing	830-741-3844 or 830-931-5327
	Paul Aelvoet	830-931-4223
	Chelley Gibson	830-931-5076
	Onnie Saathoff	830-741-5246
	Vicky Steubing	830-741-8030
LaCoste	Melinda DeCock	210-884-3065
	Tracy Chafin	830-709-5553
Natalia	Eric Owens	830-444-6184
Rio Medina	Betty M. Carroll	210-835-5632
	Karen Neuman	210-844-7039

CHANGES IN AGE/GRADE REQUIREMENTS FOR 4-H

Youth may participate in 4-H from September 1st of grade 3 through August 31st following completion of grade 12 with these restrictions:

Texas 4-H will have new membership eligibility based on SCHOOL GRADE and not age. The new eligibility rules and guideline are:

Minimum age - 8 (in addition to being in the 3rd grade)
Maximum age - 18 (as of August 31, 2015)

4-H Member Categories

Senior: Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12

Intermediate: Grades 6, 7, and 8

Junior: Grades 3, 4, and 5



NOVEMBER - 4-H MEETING DATES

Mark Your Calendars - Club meetings will be:

Castroville - Nov. 9 @ 7:30 - Castroville Elem Cafeteria

D'Hanis - Nov. 4 @ 7:30 - D'Hanis Cafeteria

Devine - Nov. 9 @ 7:00 - Devine Intermediate Cafeteria

Hondo - Nov. 8 @ 5:00 - St. Paul Lutheran Church

LaCoste - Nov. 10 @ 7:00 - LaCoste Elem Cafeteria

Natalia - Nov. 10 @ 7:00 - Natalia FFA Project Center

Rio Medina - Nov. 9 @ 7:30 - Mumme's Store

Derrick Drury
Medina County Extension Agent
Agriculture / NR

Sandra Kunkel
Medina County Extension Agent
FCS

Debby Bodenchuk
Medina County
4-H Program Asst.

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.



How to Contact Us

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Debby Bodenchuk: dgbodenchuk@ag.tamu.edu

Office Hours: 8:00am-Noon & 1:00pm-5:00pm

