



EASTLAND COUNTY



4-H FOCUS

MAY/JUNE, 2011

MAY - 4-H ENROLLMENT MONTH

Each MAY 4-Hers MUST re-enroll for membership. This is also an excellent time to enroll new members especially incoming 3rd graders. Your 4-H Club Manager will have enrollment forms available at the next 4-H Club meeting or you can stop by the Extension Office and fill one out. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT ! ! ! ! 2010-2011 members are NOT automatically re-enrolled. Club Managers need to come by the Extension Office and pick up your new enrollment forms for the 2011/2012 4-H year.

Adults need to re-enroll also! If you already have been through the volunteer screening last year, you need, however, to fill out an enrollment card again. ** New this year.....\$20 per member membership fee!!!

Please make sure to include your email address so you can be on our email mailing list.

4-H OFFICER APPLICATIONS

Any 4-H member planning to run for an office in your 4-H club or for 4-H Council needs to obtain a **“4-H Officer Application Form”** from the Texas AgriLife Extension Office, complete and return to club managers or for 4-H Council return to Halee Mitchell, CEA-FCS. These forms need to be returned before election of officers for the clubs and 4-H Council held in May. Being an officer is very important. It is something you want to be a part of, be able to put in your record book and learn leadership skills.

4-H COUNCIL & 4-H ADULT LEADERS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

The May business meeting of the 4-H Council and 4-H Adult Leaders Association will be **Wednesday, May 18, 2011** at 5:15 p.m. at the Eastland County Courthouse in Eastland. BOTH OF THESE ARE VERY IMPORTANT MEETINGS, SO PLEASE MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO ATTEND!

4-H Council will be electing new officers and deciding on Year-End Trip, so every one needs to come and help make the decisions. Club presidents, Council delegates and any club member interested should attend.

Adult Leaders Association will be discussing 4-H Banquet, 4-H programs and projects deadlines. We urge all parents and club managers to attend to make this a successful association.

COUNTY SHOW CHECKS & BONUS CHECKS

Remember that “Thank You” cards MUST be turned in when you pick up your checks. “Thank You” cards must be addressed and stamped....ready to be mailed in order to get your checks. We received the buyer’s checks and now we have the bonus checks. Come by and pick up your checks if you have not. If you have any questions, please call the Extension Office at 254/629-1093 or 629-2222.

4-H PROJECT FORMS

DO NOT FORGET . . . to fill out Project Forms as you finish your projects so you can be recognized at the County 4-H Banquet this year. If you entered Fashion Show, Food Show, Livestock Projects, Gardening, Shooting Sports, Judging Teams, Photography, etc. please fill out a form. A project consists of six (6) learning experiences. A form can be filled out on a project you are working on independently or as a group. Forms are due on June 10, 2011 at the Extension Office. They are relatively painless - - if you need the forms or help, call the Extension Office at 629-1093 or 629-2222 or come by the Extension Office in the Courthouse.

ALL AROUND 4-HER AWARD

4-H members from 9-19 years of age are eligible for this award. The *All Around 4-Her Award* is based on project participation, leadership and community service at the county, district and state levels. A point system will be used to declare the All Around 4-Her and the winner will receive an Engraved Belt Buckle at the 4-H Banquet. Forms to qualify for the All Around 4-Her are available at the County Extension Office. Forms must be completed by **June 10, 2011.**

SCRAPBOOKS, CLUB SECRETARY BOOK, ROOKIE, ALL-STAR, LETTERMAN, HONOR ROLL FORMS DUE!

JUNE 10th is the date that ALL forms are due. Club Scrapbooks, Club's Secretary Books and forms for Rookie, All-Star, Letterman, Honor Roll, All Around 4-Her Award and any others are DUE! We need time to get the certificates/plaques ready for the Banquet. If you have questions, call the Extension Office at 629-1093 or 629-2222.

STAR AWARDS JUDGING June 10th - 10:00 a.m. Courthouse Conference Room

4-H BRONZE, SILVER, GOLD STAR & DANFORTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS

WHAT ARE THESE SPECIAL AWARDS?

The GOLD STAR AWARD: is the highest county achievement award. The following requirements must be met (as stated in Texas 4-H Opportunities Handbook, pg. 11). The member must be at least 15 years of age as of January of the current year and must have completed at least three (3) years in 4-H including the current year.

The 4-H member must submit an awards program Record Book in the year he or she is to be considered for the award.

The 4-H member must have completed projects in three (3) different project areas, including submission of appropriate record forms and have participated in one or more activities in at least three (3) of the following areas:

- Method Demonstration/4-H Presentation
- Contest
- Projects
- Project Exhibits
- Camps
- Leadership Lab
- Citizenship Activities
- Public Relations (demonstrations, speeches, poster displays, radio, TV, newspapers, etc.)
- Other (includes exchange programs, fundraising, State and National Congress).

The SILVER STAR AWARD: is to be awarded to a 12-14 year old 4-Her. Nominees "must" have two (2) different projects, been involved with either a leadership lab or served as an officer, and attend 2/3 (6) of the regularly scheduled nine (9) meetings. Submit a 4-H Record Book.

The BRONZE STAR AWARD: is to be awarded to a 3rd grade 11 year old 4-Her. Nominees must be involved in two (2) projects, participated in three (3) activities, attend 2/3 (6) of the regularly scheduled meetings, and have one (1) year of 4-H work. Must submit a 4-H Record Book.

The DANFORTH "I DARE YOU" AWARD: is recognition of excellence in character and well-balanced personal development as well as demonstrated leadership

HOW DO I APPLY? Attach an index card to the front of your 4-H Record Book stating you would like to be judged for one or more of these honors. Part of the awards process is for every 4-Her to go through an interview process with a judge or judges. The 4-H club member will prepare an attractive display featuring awards, Record

Book, etc. This may be a tri-fold display or display on a card table, etc. The space limitations are about the width of a card table.

WHEN WILL AWARDS BE PRESENTED? Awards will be presented at the County 4-H Banquet. Also, the Gold Star honorees will be recognized at the District 4-H Gold Star Banquet.

HOW MANY 4-HERS CAN RECEIVE THESE HONORS?

- Gold Star 2 Recipients**
- Silver Star 2 Recipients**
- Bronze Star 2 Recipients**

4-H RECORD BOOK INFORMATION

Record Book covers are available at the Extension Office for \$2.50 each. Please visit website <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu> go to: Events and Activities; then to Texas 4-H Record keeping. You will find forms in Word or WordPerfect files. Record Books are due in the Texas AgriLife Extension Service Office on June 17th by 5:00 p.m. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!

The following are important dates regarding Record Books:

- COUNTY RECORD BOOKS DUE June 10, 2011 by 5:00 p.m.
- EASTLAND COUNTY RECORD BOOKS JUDGED June 20, 2011
- DISTRICT RECORD BOOK JUDGING July 7, 2011 in Waxachie



THE IMPORTANCE OF A 4-H RECORD BOOK

The 4-H Record Book is a permanent record of what you have done as a 4-H member. Record keeping is going to be an important part of your life. You will keep records in high school, at work, in college, and even if you own your own business or work for someone else. Now is the time to learn how to keep good records. You should keep this book for the entire time you are enrolled in 4-H, since it will be your representative on paper.

In order to receive the following awards, a 4-H RECORD BOOK MUST BE COMPLETED:

1. * * Scholarships * * - - - - - FREE money for college

Example: David Keierleber, a Rising Star 4-H member, can tell you the importance of a Record Book; he received a \$10,000 4-H scholarship last year.

2. Star Awards

- * Bronze Star Award ***
- * Silver Star Award ***
- * Gold Star Award ***
- * The Danforth “I DARE You” Award**

These awards are vital to your success as a 4-H member. If you want to even be considered for a 4-H Scholarship, you must receive all of the awards mentioned above.

Here are some suggestions on keeping up with 4-H Records:

Calendar Method - Keep a calendar in a handy location (such as on the refrigerator) and every time you do something related to 4-H, school, church or other organizations, write it down. Then at the end of each month place the calendar in a safe place until summer time comes and Record Books are ready to be completed.

Index Box Method - Get a 3-inch by 5-inch box, index cards and dividers. Label each of the dividers as one of the sections in the report form. Then each time you do something, write it down on an index card, then file the card in the section marked by the divider. For example: If you were to take Lucky (the project dog) to the nursing home for recreation with the residents, then write it down and put the card behind the community service divider. After you have maintained your “4-H File Box” for a year, you can pull the cards out and select the most important activities for your 4-H Record Book.

Binder or Spiral Notebook Method - Grab an old school binder or notebook and organize each of your activities by type of activity or by date. This is an easy way to start out until you get the hand of record keeping.

Most 4-H Record Books are due to your County Extension Agent during June and early July of each summer. So prepare early. Begin to develop your 4-H Record Book in April and May. This will give you plenty of time to get help from your parents, club manager, leader and Extension Agent, and you won't be rushed. The first step in creating your 4-H Record Book is to decide what category you are going to enter. With this Record Book, you can enter almost any 4-H project for competition. When choosing a category, remember that you will want to enter your Record Book in the category in which you have been most active or in which you have a lot of community service, leadership and learning experiences.

Record Book Categories

Aquatic Science	Horse
Beef	Housing & Home Environment
Citizenship & Civic Education	Leadership
Clothing & Textiles	Personal Development/Leadership Open
Communication and Expressive	Photography
Arts Open Category	Plant & Soil Science
Conservation of Natural Resources	Plants & Animals Open
Consumer and Family Science Open	Poultry
Consumer Education	Public Speaking
Dairy	Rabbit
Energy Management	Range Management
Entomology	Recreation
Environmental Science Open	Safety
Family Life	Science & Technology
Food & Nutrition	Sheep
Forestry	Shooting Sports
Gardening & Horticulture	Sportfishing
Goat	Swine
Health	Veterinary Science
Healthy Lifestyles Open Category	Wildlife & Fisheries

For more information about Record Books, please contact Halee Mitchell at the Eastland Extension Office at 254/629-2222.

NEED HELP ???

4-Hers needing assistance in securing a livestock project may contact Heath Begeman at the Texas AgriLife Extension Office in Eastland at 629-1093 or 629-2222 for some possibilities.

BARROW, LAMB AND GOAT VALIDATION FOR STATE FAIR

In 2011 all market barrows, lambs and goats have to be validated for the State Fair in Dallas. Validation for State Fair hogs, lambs and goats will be June 21st at 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon at the County Show Barn in Eastland. This will be the only day to validate for Dallas.

STEER VALIDATION

Steers to be exhibited in 2011-2012 at Eastland County or any major stock shows in Texas MUST be validated on June 21, 2011 beginning at 8:30 a.m. sharp. The event will be held at the Moylan Steer Barn on Highway 3101 2 ½ miles north of Eastland.

Validation fee will be \$10.00 per steer. This will be the only day to validate steers in Eastland County. Call Heath Begeman if you have questions.

DISTRICT 8 4-H LEADERSHIP LAB

District 8 4-H Leadership Lab is scheduled for June 22-24, 2011 at the Texas 4-H Center in Brownwood. 4-Hers must be 14 years of age or older in order to attend this lab. Cost is \$200.00 per participant and the registration deadline is May 31, 2011. Registration will be via 4-H CONNECT. To access 4-H CONNECT go to <http://texas4h-tamu.edu> and click on 4-H CONNECT. Anyone interested in running for a District Council office needs to obtain the form through 4-H CONNECT.

If you are interested in attending, please call the Extension Office and let us know.

LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM

CONGRATULATIONS to the Eastland County Livestock Judging Team for a successful year. Participants were: Aubrey Lawrence, Hailey Parks, Matt Lawrence, Harley Kendall, Michelle Cooper, Kobe Conring, Hallie Taylor, Chloe Taylor, Wesley Dunlap and Rileigh Dunlap.

IMPORTANT EASTLAND COUNTY STOCK SHOW RULE CHANGES

Market Hog Weights:

200 - 270 pounds with a three (3) pound tolerance

Market Steer Rules

All steers will be shown by weight. They will no longer be broken by breed. All steers will show together.

Heifer Rules

Heifers will be shown by breed and must show breed registration papers. Papers must be in the exhibitors name by December 1st. Any heifer without papers will show as an All Other Breed.

Sheep Rules

You may now show four (4) Market Sheep, but one must be a hair sheep.

Commercial Heifer Show

No limit to how many heifers can be validated.

Exhibitor may enter single or pens of three (3) or any combination, but limited to three entries.

Single entry fee \$15; pen of three (3) fee \$30

There are more rule changes; for a complete set of rules contact the Extension Office.

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO THIS SUMMER ???

If you have some free time and just do not know what to do, come by the Extension Office and check out the project materials. We have: Aerospace, Babysitting, Cats, Character Counts, Computers, Entomology, Horticulture, Kidz Ants (fire ant curriculum for youth), Lawn Ranger, and Theater Arts.

You could learn something new and then fill out a Project Form on the six (6) new learning experiences, and receive a certificate at the 4-H Banquet. If you have questions, call the Extension Office at 629-1093 or 629-2222.

SUMMER CAMPS

CAMP CHEF

Camp Chef will be one day of cooking, community service and games. Camp Chef will be on July 1st at the Eastland High School Home Ec Department Kitchen. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. with the camp ending by 3:00 p.m. The camp will be for ages 9 and up. Cost of camp will be \$12.00 per person. Please call the Texas AgriLife Extension Office at 254/629-2222 for more information about this camp or to register. Registration deadline is June 24th! We are only accepting twenty participants for this camp.....CALL TODAY to reserve a space.

SEWING CAMP

Looking for something fun and creative to do this Summer? Then sign up for Sewing Camp on August 3th and 4th at the Conference Room in the Courthouse. Sewing camp offers a fun and safe environment, where you can learn and be creative during those hot summer days. Several projects will be sewn during the days. Please register for Sewing Camp by Monday, July 25th by calling the Eastland County Extension Office at 254/629-2222. This camp will be for ages 9 and up. Supplies will be purchased for those calling in by the registration deadline. Those not registering ahead of time may not have supplies to make all the crafts. Cost is \$20.00 per person.

MINI SEWING CAMP

Are you 6-8 years of age and interested in sewing camp . . . then here is the SCOOP!!! There is going to be a Mini Sewing Camp for ages 6-8 years of age. This camp will be on August 2nd at the Eastland County Courthouse Conference Room starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending around 3:00 p.m. Several projects will be sewn during the day. Please register for this Mini Sewing Camp by Monday, July 25th by calling the Extension Office at 254/629-2222. Cost for this Mini Sewing camp will be \$10.00.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

- Texas 4-H RoundUp, Texas A&M University June 13-17, 2011
- 4-H Record Book DUE in County Office June 10, 2011
- All Project Forms, Scrapbooks, Rookie, Letterman, All-Star, Honor Roll, Secretary Books , All Around 4-Her Award June 10, 2011
- Star Award Judging June 10, 2011
- District 8 4-H Horse Show, Bell County Expo June 20-21, 2011
- Steer Validation Day, 8:30 a.m. June 21, 2011
- District 8 4-H Leadership Lab, Texas 4-H Center June 22-24, 2011
- District 8 4-H Record Book Judging, Waxahacie July 7, 2011
- SpecTRA, Texas 4-H Center July 18-22, 2011
- Prime Time (ages 12-13), Texas 4-H Center July 24-27, 2011
- Prime Time (ages 9-11), Texas 4-H Center July 27-30, 2011
- State 4-H Horse Show - Abilene July 23-26, 2011

GRADUATING SENIORS - 2011

GRADUATION IS A VERY SPECIAL TIME AND WE WISH TO CONGRATULATE:

- Rowdy Bond - Ranger High School***
- Kat Leal - Rising Star High School***
- Ashley Mitchell - Eastland High School***
- Carl Pendergrast - Rising Star High School***

BEST WISHES AND REACH FOR THE STARS !!!!!!!

Heath Begeman
County Extension Agent-Ag
Eastland County

Halee Mitchell
County Extension Agent-FCS
Eastland County