COUNTY COUNTDOWN

District 9 4-H Photography is Now Open for Registration
Please note, it is very important that you refer to the rules and guidelines for this contest. Photography uploads are now done through 4-HConnect and photos need to be titled as indicated in the rules. If you need assistance or have any questions, please call the District Office. 979-845-6800 DEADLINE IS APRIL 5, 2012

Madison County 4-H Whiz Bang
April 14-15, 2012 Registration Due by March 31, 2012
Trap, Skeet, Whiz Bang/(5-Stand Novice)
• 50 Targets each event in classes except Novice
• 25 Targets each event in Novice Classes
Location: Madison County Gun & Archery Club Madisonville, TX
Time: Check in begins at 7:30am. Events begin at 8:30am. Safety orientation will be given prior to shooting each day. Sunday a non-denominational service at approximately 8:00am at range
Registration Fee: $70 for Junior, Intermediate, Senior I & Senior II $40 for Novice I & Novice II
Contact: D’Ann Rogers 936-349-6168 Email: drogers@madisonvillecisd.org

2012 –2013 Steer Validation Tag Orders:
4-H and FFA members in Brazos County who intend to exhibit steers in any of the 2012/2013 major livestock shows or the 2013 Brazos County Youth Livestock Show must have their steers validated according to the Texas Steer Validation program using the state validation ear tags. This form should be completed with the information requested and submitted to the Brazos County Extension Office as indicated below. These cattle will be validated at a date to be set toward the end of June. A letter will be sent indicating confirmed date, time and location as soon as these are set.

http://brazos.agrilife.org/ •2619 Highway 21 West, Bryan 77803 •979.823.0129

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas cooperating. Individuals with disabilities who require assistance in order to participate are encouraged to contact our office.
COUNTY COUNTDOWN

State Fair Tags:
April 13 will be our county deadline for State Fair Market Lambs, Market Goats & Market Hogs. The Cost will be $8.50 for State Fair Market Lambs & Market Goats. Cost for Hog tags is TBD. If you have any questions please contact county office.

Paw-fect Pals 4-H Dog Club of Brazos Co.
Presents The 2nd Annual Brazos County District 9 Open 4-H Dog Show
April 28, 2012—Entries Due April 18, 2012—No registrations accepted after this postmarked date.
Still Creek Ranch—See the location by visiting http://www.stillcreekranch.org/?page_id=46
Check in Begins at 8:00am—Show Starts at 9:00am
Mail Completed— Entry Form, Vaccination records, and payment to
Diedra Wallace
16177 Woodlake Drive
College Station, TX 77845
Questions: email Melanie Sera @ mel.sera@gamil.com

Attention Equine Enthusiast
Want to become a better horseman? Who better to learn from than a bunch of Aggies? There are still dates available for Teas Aggie Summer Horsemanship Schools. Schools can be set up through Extension Conference services https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/
For more info contact Teri Antilley tjantilley@ag.tamu.edu

2012 State Roundup
The 2012 Texas 4-H roundup will be held in Lubbock, Texas on the campus of Texas Tech University. The week will start with registration pickup on Monday, June 11, 2012 and end on Friday, June 15, 2012.
For more info check out: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/youth/roundup/index.php

Callahan County Archery Spring Fling April 14, 2012
Deadline: March 31, 2012—$10.00 late fee after deadline, call for availability. Limited to the first 100 shooters
Cost: $20 for 1 event and $30 for both—Make Checks payable to Callahan Archery Club
Mail Registration and fees to: Mike McCormick
PO Box 987
Clyde, TX 79510
For Questions Call: Mike McCormick at 325-864-6899
COUNTY COUNTDOWN

2012 TEXAS 4-H HORSE VALIDATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Beginning with this year’s Horse Validation Program the process will now be all electronically completed using the 4-H CONNECT online management system. ALL 4-H members who wish to show in a district or the state 4-H Horse Show(s) will be required to validate their horse(s) on the 4-H CONNECT system.

BEFORE YOUR BEGIN YOUR VALIDATION PROCESS, YOU MUST:

• Have a family and youth member profile established on 4-H CONNECT
• Be an paid/active youth member of Texas 4-H for the 2011-2012 year.
• Have digital photos of your horse(s) from the front, left side, and right side. These photos must be accessible for upload during the validation process.
• For registered horses, you need to have a pdf copy of your horse(s) registration papers for upload.

IMPORTANT

Horse Validation is completed for EACH HORSE and will cover all 4-H youth members in that family profile. However, when validating your horses on 4-H CONNECT, you will select ONLY ONE 4-H youth member to conduct the validation under. Once a horse is validated, validation paid, and you begin registering for district horse show, the validate horse(s) can be moved to the appropriate 4-H member(s) that will be exhibiting the horse in the show.

OTHER FACTS ABOUT THE HORSE VALIDATION PROCESS FOR 2012:

• VALIDATION WILL BE OPEN FROM APRIL 1, 2012 TO MAY 1, 2012.
  Any horse validated before or after this date will not be accepted as a legitimate validate animal.

• BECAUSE THIS IS A NEW SYSTEM THIS YEAR IT IS STRONGLY ADVISED THAT YOU DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE IN CASE OF ANY COMPUTER, PHOTO, UPLOAD ISSUES!

Steer Feeders Take Notice

There is a new publication available to assist you with Show Steer Classification. Check it out at:

http://animalscience.tamu.edu/images/pdf/beef/Texas-show-steer-classifications.pdf
COUNTY COUNTDOWN

The Brazos County Senior Consumer Decision Making Team placed 5th place at the San Antonio Livestock Show on February 18th. The team consisted of (L to R) Lauren Baxter, Ciera Castillo, Bethany Wilke and Thanet Lawrence pictured with livestock show representatives. The team competed against 42 senior teams.

Bethany Wilke on the Brazos County Senior Consumer Decision Making Team placed 4th overall out of 140 competitors and received a $10,000 Scholarship.

The Brazos County Intermediate Consumer Decision Making Team placed 1st place at the San Antonio Livestock Show. The team consisted of (L to R) Cody Kocman, Katelyn Kocman, Julia Lawrence and Joshua Kim. In addition, Joshua Kim placed 1st place Individual and Cody Kocman placed 6th Place Individual out of 122 intermediate competitors. There were 39 intermediate teams from across the state in this year’s competition.
Drive Scholarship Programs

- $250 Book Scholarship
  - Ages 16-21—Deadline April 1, 2012
- $10,000 Entrepreneurial Award
  - Ages Current College & Masters Degree Students & Recently Graduated (No More than 3 years Following Graduation) -Deadline April 1, 2012
- $5,000 Drive Scholars Program
  - Ages Incoming College Freshman Deadline April 1, 2012

For more information about scholarships visit: www.drivelievestock.com

Texas 4-H Congress

Texas 4-H Congress is a four-day mock legislative experience for 4-H members ages 15 (at the time of the event) to 18. During this time, the 4-H members assume the roles of senators, representatives, lobbyists, press corps, and special interest groups to gain a first hand understanding of how the legislative process works. Bills that are written sponsored by 4-H members focus on issues concerning Texas and Texas youth. These bills are assigned to appropriate committee and then debated in committee meetings and then on the floor of the house or Senate. If a bill is successful in negotiation and the legislative debate in all three states, it is delivered to the Governor of Texas 4-H Congress for his or her signature or veto. Copies of all the bills that are signed into law during Texas 4-H Congress are provided to the Office of Governor Rick Perry for his Review.

Texas 4-H Congress is a premiere leadership program that is co-planned and co-implemented by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Office and the Texas 4-H Council. The Texas 4-H Council, which consists of elected delegates from each district within the state to assume many of the leadership responsibilities.

ONLINE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 20, 2012 ON 4-H CONNECT.

2012 Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge

Are you up for a challenge? Do you love the outdoors? If so, mark your calendars for June 30-July 1, 2012 for the 4th annual Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge to be held at the Texas 4-H Conference Center in Brownwood.

Grab a friend, learn, practice, and train to compete in a series of ten outdoor events that will challenge you physically and mentally. Are you the ultimate Texas Outdoor Challenge team? Join us next summer to find out.
STATE COUNTDOWN

Texas 4-H Veterinary Science Skillathon

OVERVIEW

The Veterinary Science Skillathon is a competitive event designed to test the knowledge and skills that a 4-H member can gain through his or her involvement in a Veterinary Science project. There are several components to the contest. The Written Exam is to test the participant’s subject matter knowledge. The Skills Exam tests the hands-on or experiential learning and is the largest component of the contest. The Quiz Round requires participants to think on their feet, as well as analyze risks as far as losing points for incorrect answers, and this part is generally the most fun for the participants. Finally, the Communication portion of the contest helps to develop public speaking skills.

OBJECTIVES OF THE 4-H VETERINARY SCIENCE PROJECT

1. Utilize career-oriented resource material and supplements that provide lessons, questions, and activities. 2. Develop the interest, knowledge, skills, and experiences of youth in veterinary science for a career in veterinary medicine (veterinary assistant, veterinary technician or veterinarian), human medicine (paraprofessional or physician), or allied health fields (diagnostics, therapeutics). 3. Prepare youth to be job-trained following high school, prepare youth to pursue an associate degree college program, and prepare youth to pursue a professional degree college program.

ELIGIBILITY AND GUIDELINES

1. Application Date. Must submit completed application with original signatures postmarked by Friday, March 16, 2012 to Laura Huebinger by US mail to the following address:
   4-H Veterinary Science Skillathon
   Laura Huebinger
   Extension Program Specialist
   4-H & Youth Development
   Texas AgriLife Extension Service
   1229 N US Hwy 281
   Stephenville, TX 76401
2012 FilmFest 4-H

Missouri 4-H is pleased to officially announce the second annual FilmFest 4-H, a national film festival open to all 4-H members ages 11 and up. For many of you, planning for your next state film festival is already underway. Our hope is that FilmFest 4-H can serve as an additional opportunity for you compliments your state’s existing efforts. This event is sponsored by the national 4-H Communications and Expressive Arts Task Force, Missouri’s 4-H Center for Youth Development, and city of Branson.

For More Information Visit:
http://4h.missouri.edu/filmfest

Let’s Go To 4-H Camp

• Challenge Course Certification— The Texas 4-H Conference Center will host a Level 1 Challenge Course Certification training, March 10–14, 2012. This 40-hour course is available to anyone who is interested in Low and High Ropes facilitation certification. Adventure Experiences, Inc. of Trinity, Texas conducts the program.

• Becoming an Outdoors Woman Program— Also, in March the Center will host Texas Parks and Wildlife’s Becoming an Outdoors Woman program. Ladies, here’s you chance to hone your skills in kayaking, bicycling, fishing, shooting and all things outdoors! Make it a “Ladies Weekend” and invite your friends to the 4-H Center for this weekend of learning and fellowship.

Center Events for Your Calendar:

Jan. 6-8, 2012    4-H Teen Retreat
April 23-27, 2012 Spring Fling
July 9-11, 2012   County Camp I
July 11-14, 2012  County Camp II
July 16-18, 2012  County Camp III
July 18-21, 2012  Prime Time I
July 22-25, 2012  Prime Time II
July 22-25, 2012  Mission Possible
Let’s Cook Something!!!

**Chicken and Broccoli Casserole Supreme**

**Ingredients:**

- 2 Cups Cooked Chicken, diced
- 1 1/2 Cup Rice, cooked
- 1 Onion, chopped
- 1 10.75 Ounce Can Low Sodium Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 1 10 Ounce Package Frozen Broccoli
- 1 Cup Reduced– Fat Cheese, shredded
- Non-Stick Cooking Spray
- Salt and Pepper to taste

**Directions**

Prepare Chicken and rice according to package directions. In a large skillet, thoroughly coat with non-stick cooking spray and cook onion on medium heat for 2-3 minutes. Add chicken, rice, soup, and broccoli to skillet. Mix thoroughly and heat on high for 5 minutes. Sprinkle cheese on top and serve immediately.

- **Preparation Time:** 15 Minutes
- **Cook Time:** 10 Minutes
- **Cost Per Serving:** $.64
- **Servings:** 6
- **Serving Size:** 1/6 Casserole
- **Calories:** 230
- **Calories from Fat:** 80

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As always Better Living for Texans (BLT) can provide food stamp eligible and other low income families with nutrition, food safety, and food resource management information. So for more information or any questions, contact Teresa Rivera at the Brazos County Extension Office: 979-823-0129 or email at trivera@ag.tamu.edu. In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture’s policy, Better Living for Texans Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, political beliefs, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**Brandon Gregson**
County Extension Agent
4-H and Youth Development

**Eric Zimmerman**
County Extension Agent
Agriculture & Natural Resources

**Alyson M. Hoffman**
County Extension Agent
Family and Consumer Sciences

**Ashley Skinner**
4-H Program Assistant
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