

Austin County 4-H Review June-July 2012



Texas AgriLife Extension Service-Austin County
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A New Face to Austin County

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Growing up in the 4-H program has laid the foundation for a passion and drive inside of me for this organization that I never thought was possible. I am beyond excited to begin my journey in Austin County as the new 4-H Agent!!!

Being born and raised in the suburbs of Houston, Agriculture was not something you saw every day. However, the 4-H program opened new opportunities and doors for me through leadership events, livestock projects, and numerous other activities. I began raising show sheep, goats, steers, and hogs at the age of 8 and as I grew older, became a member of the TJLA, showing on that circuit until I graduated from high school in 2008. I attended Sam Houston State University in the fall of 2008, where I judged livestock competitively my senior year, graduating in December of 2011. After completing a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science, with a minor in Agricultural Business, I began my Master of Science degree at Texas A&M University; focusing on Extension and Youth Development in the Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications Department.

I feel very honored and blessed to begin my career in Austin County. I am excited to expand on old ideas and introduce new ones to such a prestigious county already being exemplified by others. I look forward to meeting and working with each and every one of you with anything and everything this program has to offer!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, or to just meet and greet! Let's make this new 4-H year one to remember!

Beth Collins
4-H & Youth Development Agent
Austin County

State Roundup 2012

State Roundup 2012 will be held June 10-15 in Lubbock, Texas. We have several 4-Her's participating in numerous competitions and we wish them all the best of luck!!!

Tyler Bond	<i>Livestock Judging</i>	Ross Janish	<i>Consumer Dec. Making</i>
Ty Murray	<i>Livestock Judging</i>	Jordan Spiess	<i>Consumer Dec. Making</i>
Clayton Schram	<i>Livestock Judging</i>	Elizabeth Sifford	<i>Consumer Dec. Making</i>
Dustin Schram	<i>Livestock Judging</i>		
Brooks Eskew	<i>Scholarship Recipient</i>	Katelynn Miller	<i>Fashion Show</i>
Mitchell Gates	<i>Scholarship Recipient</i>		
Katelynn Miller	<i>Scholarship Recipient</i>	Kinsey Shackelford	<i>4-H Has Talent</i>
Tyler Gardner	<i>Rifle</i>		
Becky Klotz	<i>Rifle</i>		
Tucker Long	<i>Rifle</i>		
Brandon Muske	<i>Rifle</i>		
Mitchell Gates	<i>Method Demonstration</i>		
Katelynn Miller	<i>Method Demonstration</i>		

Recordbook and Star Awards

Now is the time to start working on recordbooks. Recordbooks are a way for you to showcase your recordkeeping skills while highlighting your 4-H career. Outside of this, it looks great on scholarship applications and resumes! By completing a recordbook each year, you enable yourself to keep track of your entire 4-H career. Senior members can also earn a trip to Washington D.C.

Along with recordbooks, comes the opportunity to win a Star Award. Star Awards include Rising (8-10 years old), Bronze (11-12 years old), Silver (13-14 years old), and Gold (15 and older). The Gold Star Award recipients receive a scholarship upon graduation. In addition the "I Dare You" Award will be offered to senior aged 4-H members. For more information, refer to the Austin Co. 4-H Member Handbook.

All Recordbook and Star Award Applications are due Monday June 18, 2012. The Star award applications as well as the Recordbook applications can be found on the County website (Austin.agrilife.org). Star award interviews will be held Tuesday, July 17, 2012 at 9 am. Interview times will be given upon submission of applications.

Recordbook Judges Needed!!!

Parents, we are looking for judges for the County and District Recordbook Judging. Your assistance would be much appreciated. This would also give you an excellent opportunity to learn more about the recordbook. County Recordbook judging is currently scheduled for **June 26, 2012**; and District will be held on **July 12, 2012**. County recordbook judging will be conducted in Colorado County and the location for district will be announced at a later date. Each county is required to submit two individuals to assist with the judging process at the District level. Your assistance would definitely help us meet this requirement. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Jr. Leader Lab

Tuesday, July 10, 2012
Salt Water Pavilion
Rockport, TX

Jr. Leader Lab is a fun-filled leadership and project training for youth ages 9-13 years old. It will offer activities such as teambuilding, kayaking, sun safety, seining, much more.

Youth registration will be \$30 which will include lunch, snacks, and t-shirt. Adults, agents and teen leaders can register for \$20 if they want a t-shirt. No charges/fees will apply if adults/teen leaders choose not to order a t-shirt.

Registration deadline with no late fee is June 26. Please go to the District website to submit your name so that an accurate headcount can be made for the meal and refreshments.

Attached is a flyer and schedule for your keeping. The medical release forms (which will be turned in at the arrival at camp) can be found on the County website (Austin.agrilife.org). **BE SURE TO PRINT THESE OFF!**

Leaders Camp 2012

Friday, July 13, 2012
St. Johns Lutheran Retreat Center
Bellville, TX

LEADERS Camp is a hands-on 4-H leadership and project training for all 4-H Club Officers which will provide the necessary skills to lead their 4-H Club with confidence and knowledge. Youth will learn how to conduct a meeting, use basic parliamentary procedures, coordinate activities, lead recreation, plan recruitment efforts, and much, much more.

Registration deadline- July 6, 2012. The registration form can be found on the county website (Austin.agrilife.org).

Swine Tag-In

July 7, 2012 and July 14, 2012
6-8 am (both dates)
Austin County Fairgrounds

Lamb/Goat Tag-In

July 14, 2012
Lambs: 7-9 am
Goat: 9-11 am
Austin County Fairgrounds

4-H Council and PLA Meeting

Thursday, July 5, 2012 @ 7pm
FNB Civic Center in Bellville

All 4-H members, especially club officers and council delegates, are highly encouraged to attend the Council meeting.

Hope to see you there!!!

Prestige Leadership Camp

June 27, 2012-June 28, 2012
J Bar J Ranch
Sealy, TX

This multi-county opportunity will be designed to prepare **incoming Council Officers** for an exciting year of leadership experiences. *All members running for a 2012-2013 County Council Officer position are encouraged to attend!!!*

All those running for a 2012-2013 County Council Officer position, be looking for registration and other camp information via mail!!!

2012 Poultry Institute for Youth

The 2012 Poultry Institute for Youth will be held June 17-19, 2012 in College Station, TX. The Institute is an overnight enrichment camp for students who are interested in pursuing a bachelor's degree in Poultry Science or are just interested in the Poultry industry in general. Students will attend mini-lectures taught by our own Texas A&M University staff on topics such as anatomy, embryology, immunology, nutrition, and processing. Students will also take field trips to a commercial layer facility and a commercial processing facility. To be eligible students must be entering their junior or senior year of high school during the Fall 2012 semester. For the application or additional information, please go to <http://posc.tamu.esu.library/youthprograms/poultryinstitute/PoultryInstitute2012Final.pdf> or you can contact Jennifer Allen by phone or email at 979-845-1654 or jallen@poultry.tamu.edu

Important Dates about Tag-In and Validations for State and District Shows!!!

State Fair Lamb, Goat, and Swine Validation

If you are planning on exhibiting a lamb, goat, or swine project at the State Fair of Texas in Dallas on Oct. 1-5, 2012, that animals will need to be validated. Tag orders were due April 16, 2012, and all State Fair animals will be validated on **June 27, 2012**.

State Steer Validation

Validation of steers is required for anyone wanting to participate in the State Fair of Texas, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Houston, Austin, or San Angelo. Tag orders were due April 16, 2012, and steer validation will take place on **June 27, 2012**.

4-H Enrollment and Participation Fee

To maintain the level of programming and opportunities in the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, an annual participant fee is necessary for each 4-H member starting with the 2011-2012 4-H year on September 1, 2011. This participant fee of \$25, or \$20 if enrolled from September 1st to October 31st, will hopefully ensure that the Texas AgriLife Extension Service can continue to deliver the highest quality 4-H program in the world.

Fair Entries

Fair entry night will take place during the August 4-H meetings. All 4-H fair exhibitors must be enrolled online via 4-H Connect for the entry to be complete. The deadline to turn in 4-H fair entry cards is Friday, August 24, 2012. Fair catalogs are available in the Extension office and at the fair office.

Don't forget to have your child's social security number, entry fees, and a self-addressed stamped envelope. If you forget your envelope, send \$1.00 cash with your entry and we will take care of it for you.

Also, keep in mind that in keeping with the Austin County Fair drug residue avoidance policy, exhibitors are now required to pass the Quality Counts Verification test for entry into the 2012 Show. Junior market and breeding show entries will not be accepted without the verification code for each exhibitor. Verification codes are not required for Agricultural Mechanics exhibitors or Judging Contest contestants. The quality counts training and test can be found at <http://qualitycounts.tamu.edu/verification/>.

Dates to Remember

June

- 9: BeefProject Group Meeting @ Austin Co. Fairgrounds- Hoof Trimming
- 9: Goat Project Group Meeting @ Austin Co. Fairgrounds- Shearing & Fitting
- 9: Lamb Project Group Meeting @Austin Co. Fairgrounds- Shearing & Fitting
- 9: Swine Project Group Meeting- Processing Tour
- 10-15 : State 4-H Roundup
- 11: Colt Project Group Meeting @ Austin Co. Fairgrounds- Mandatoroty Weigh in and Evaluation
- 17-18: 2012 Poultry Institute for Youth
- 18: Recordbooks DUE
- 18: STAR Award applications DUE
- 19-21: District Leadership Lab
- 22-23 District Horse Show
- 26: County Recordbook Judging
- 26: Deadline to register for Junior Leader Lab
- 26: Turkey Project Group Meeting
- 27: State Fair Lamb, Goat, & Swine Validation
- 27: Major Show Steer Validation
- 27-28: Prestige Leadership Camp (FOR 2012-2013 COUNCIL OFFICERS ONLY)

July

- 5: Council and PLA Meeting
- 7: Swine Tag-In
- 10: Junior Leader Lab
- 12: District Recordbook Judging
- 13: LEADERS Camp
- 14: Swine Tag-In
- 14: Lamb/Goat Tag-In
- 17: STAR Award Interviews
- 19: Beef Project Group Meeting @ Austin Co. Fairgrounds- Hair care & groom.
- 28: Rabbit Project Group Meeting @ Civic Center- Showmanship Contest

For more information regarding anything in this newsletter, please visit our county website or contact the Extension office. Also, please remember to utilize the State 4-H website and the District 11 website as a resource for contest/ project information.

County
<http://austin.agrilife.org/>

District
<http://d114-h.tamu.edu/>

State
<http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/>

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Sincerely,

Beth Collins
County Extension Agent
4-H & Youth Development