



# Gateway to 4-H

## Hill County 4-H Newsletter August 2011 Edition

PO Box 318

Hillsboro TX 76645

Phone: 254-582-4022

### Hill County 4-H Council 2011-2012

#### President

Zane Stidham

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

James Bezdek

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

Hanna Sumrall

#### Secretary

Brazos McPeek

#### Treasurer

Blake Pustejovsky

#### Reporter

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Jarred Sparks

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Mark Byrd

**Sheryl Raley**  
County Extension  
Agent –  
4-H & Youth  
Development

## Information Station



### Congratulations District 8 Record Book Winners!

James Bezdek—1st Place, Senior Environmental Sciences  
Brazos McPeek—4th Place, Intermediate Sheep  
Blake Pustejovsky—1st Place, Intermediate Goat  
Brock Pustejovsky—2nd Place, Junior Goat  
Zane Stidham—4th Place, Senior Expressive Arts

Good luck James at the State 4-H Record Book Contest!

### Congratulations to the Hill County 4-H Awards Banquet Winners!




# 4-H Updates



The official 4-H year starts in August 2011. I will need all members registered on 4-H Connect by the end of November in order for the member to be able to participate in the Hill County Fair. This rule has been in effect but not strictly enforced. This means no enrollment forms turned in the week of the Hill County Fair! So please do your best to have yours and your child's enrollment forms into me as soon as they are filled out! This also ensures that you will be getting your monthly newsletter!

We will be having a beginning of year Club Manager Meeting on August 18th. This meeting will be at the Extension Office and start at 6:00 p.m. We will be discussing events for the 4-H year, giving you updates on the 4-H program, and discussing 4-H membership dues. We can also address any changes you or your club would like to make for the upcoming year. At this time, we will give you enrollment forms and the needed paperwork to re-charter your club. See you on the 18th!

The first Quality Counts Training will take place on Wednesday, August 10th, starting at 2:00 p.m., at the Extension Office. Remember, this is required before you can enter any major livestock show for 2012 year. This training will be limited to the first 50 participants to register. You must sign up to take this training by Wednesday, August 3rd.

<p>It's PHOTOGRAPHY time! The District 8 Photography contest deadline is coming up in September! There are a few changes this year! This is now a digital photo contest. Meaning no more mounting photos. They will be emailed to the extension office and digitally displayed at the Heart O' Texas Fair. The winning photographs will be on display at the Heart O' Texas Fair October 7-15.</p>	<p>There will be different divisions: Junior, Intermediate, and Senior. These are the new categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEOPLE</li> <li>• ANIMALS - WILDLIFE</li> <li>• ANIMALS - DOMESTIC</li> <li>• MARINE/AQUATIC</li> <li>• PLANT/FLORA</li> <li>• ELEMENTS OF DESIGN</li> <li>• NATURE &amp; LANDSCAPE</li> <li>• DETAILS &amp; MACRO</li> <li>• DIGITAL DARKROOM</li> <li>• THEME</li> <li>• NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY</li> <li>• FOOD</li> <li>• DOMINANT COLOR</li> <li>• CATCH-ALL</li> </ul>
<p>The Information Packet will be posted on the website when it comes available.</p>	
<p>Entry Deadline in September</p>	

## Shooting Sports News

The Crossbow Archery Club will not be practicing this summer after June 14th. Practice will resume again on Tuesday, September 6th. Practice takes place in Hillsboro at the Hill County Exhibits Building.

## QUALITY COUNTS TRAINING IS NOW IN EFFECT!!

Quality Counts Verification is now active and ready to be used! Moving forward into the 2011-2012 Major Show Season, Quality Counts Verification will be a part of the process for entry in all major shows. This means youth exhibitors will need to demonstrate their knowledge of the Six Pillars of Character and the Eight Core Concepts presented in the Quality Counts Curriculum. To do this, they will need to pass an online test on the website (<http://qualitycounts.tamu.edu/>) and acquire a Quality Counts Verification number.

Hill County will offer several trainings throughout the fall to train all of our 4-H members on this curriculum. 4-H members must attend these trainings in order to take the verification test. Again, this is required for anyone wanting to participate at any 2012 Major Livestock Show. 4-H members must pass this test in order to even sign up for a major livestock show. The member must retake this test until it is passed.

### Things you need to know about Verification:

- \* 2011 - State Fair of Texas will implement Quality Counts Verification on a voluntary basis.
- \* 2012 - All Major Livestock Shows in Texas will require Quality Counts Verification at the time of entry - This means youth will need to be verified prior to entry in the fall of 2011.
- \* A Verification number is obtained by answering 80% of the questions correctly on an online test.

This will be strictly enforced and there will be no exceptions!

## 4-H ANNUAL PARTICIPANT FEE



Since this year is the first year for 4-H participation fee, everyone will have to sign up for 4-H on the 4-H Connect Website [www.4honline.com](http://www.4honline.com). This will be strictly enforced this year. You will have to pay your participation fees on this site. If you need help with this, feel free to come by the extension office for assistance. Membership dues cost \$20 if enrolled from September 1st to October 31st. After October 31st, dues will cost \$25. If you do not remember your password for this site, we can reset it for you. This has to be done for your child to be a bona fide 4-H member. Thank you for understanding the reasoning behind this change in 4-H. Lets stay committed to giving our full support to the 4-H program!

# Livestock Project News

West Texas State Fair, South Plains Fair, State Fair of Texas, East Texas State Fair are coming up. The entry deadline for these shows is August 11th. Plan on attending entry night on the 11th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for these shows on that day. This will be the last day to turn in entries for these 4 shows.

The Heart O' Texas Fair will be held October 6-15, 2011. The entry night for exhibitors to sign up will be September 6th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This is the last day to turn in entries to the Extension Office.  
**NO EXCEPTIONS!**

With the Heart O' Texas Fair right around the corner, it's time to start practicing Livestock Judging again! The first practice of the year will be on Thursday, September 1st starting at 6:00 p.m. The second judging practice will take place on Tuesday, September 27th starting at 6:00 p.m.

Attention heifer exhibitors! If you plan on showing your heifer at the Heart O' Texas Fair, your heifer must have been registered under your name by June 30, 2011, to show in the Jr. Show. If your heifer was registered under your name after that date, you may only enter the Jackpot Show at the Heart O' Texas Fair. All other major livestock shows require the registration date be on or before November 1, 2011. You must have your heifer registered to the exhibitor before this date!!



## IMPORTANT VALIDATION DATES



We will continue to validate breeding sheep for major livestock shows. Breeding sheep (rams & ewes) that will be shown at San Antonio, San Angelo, and Houston will need to be validated. The ownership deadline will be October 1st. NO validation tags and county tattoo numbers will be required on Breeding Sheep. Registration numbers for each animal will be recorded on the validation form and a copy of the original registration papers will be attached to the validation form. Nose prints and hair samples will be taken. Cost will be \$4 per breeding sheep. Deadline to order Breeding Sheep Validation Forms will be August 26th. Validation will be October 24th.

Breeding Does will be able to show again at San Angelo Stock Show's Texas Stars Does Show and Sale. These commercial and registered does will need to be validated if you want to compete at this show. The top 20 does of that show will sell. These breeding does will be validated just like wether goats. They will be tagged and have a hair sample taken. You will have to place a tag order for every breeding doe showing at San Angelo Stock Show. Cost will be \$9 per breeding doe. Deadline to order breeding doe tags will be August 26th. Validation will take place October 24th.



It is that time again to order Major Show Lamb and Goat Tags. The cost is now \$9 per tag. Lambs and goats that were validated for the State Fair of Texas will have to be re-validated with the Major Show Tags. Tag orders must be in to me by August 26. The validation date is set for October 24 at the Hill County Fair Grounds.

This is also when county validation will take place.

County tags will cost \$2 per animal the day of validation.  
**DO NOT miss this or you will not be able to show your animal!!!**



# Important Dates



## August

- 10 Quality Counts Training
- 11 Major Show Entry Night
- 18 Club Manager Meeting
- 26 Lamb/Goat Tag Order deadline
- 27 Texas Rangers Green Out Night

## September

- 1 Livestock Judging Practice
- 6 HOT Fair Entry Night
- 27 Livestock Judging Practice

## October

- 24 Lamb & Goat Validation, County Swine Validation

~Look For More Important Dates To Come~