



# Gateway to 4-H

## Hill County 4-H Newsletter July 2011 Edition

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

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County Extension  
Agent –  
4-H & Youth  
Development



## Information Station

### Congratulations to our D8 Horse Show Contestants!

Shane Campbell—6th Place Western  
Pleasure, Western Horsemanship

### Congratulations James Bezdek on the State Photography Contest!

Plant/Flora—Blue Award  
Night Photography—Blue Award  
Food—Blue Award  
Elements of Design—Blue Award  
Details & Macros—Blue Award  
Catch All—Blue Award  
Animals-Wildlife—Blue Award  
Animals-Domestic—Blue Award  
Theme—Red Award  
People—Red Award  
Nature/Landscape—Red Award  
Dominant Color—Red Award



# 4-H Updates



Save the date!!! The 4-H Awards Banquet is set for Friday, July 15, 2011. The banquet will take place at the Bynum School Cafeteria starting at 6:00 p.m. The theme this year is “4-H Safari.”

Each club will have to bring 2 game ideas to play following the ceremony. We will not be having a dance but will have themed music playing during the games.

I have pictures that I have taken throughout the year but if you have any good pictures to add to the list, please email them to me or bring them by my office. Please RSVP by Friday, July 8th in the office.

The official 4-H year starts in August 2011. I will need all enrollment forms into my office 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! Don’t forget that there will be a participation fee for every 4-H member starting in August.

Attention 4-H members! We will be hosting a new summer program for July 19-21, 2011. The day camp will consist of a variety of activities: fashion storyboard, rug weaving, kitchen 101, and tours of businesses and industries. Bring a friend who might be interested in learning about 4-H to share the fun! More information to come! Save the date!

The Hill 4-H County Council will not be meeting this month. Instead we will be having an officer training that has been moved to July 27, 2011. This is mandatory for the 2011-2012 County Council officers, but any club officer can attend and is encouraged to attend! The training will last from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If you are not on council but want to attend, please contact me by July 19.

The first Quality Counts Training will take place on Wednesday, August 10th 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.

## 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!

The Texas Rangers Game is hosting a Green Out Night for 4-H members on Saturday, August 27th. The Rangers will be playing the Angels and this game will benefit the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation. For every ticket purchased, a \$3 donation will be made back to the County 4-H program. You will get a free Green Out t-shirt for attending. To attend, you must come by the Extension Office by July 29th and purchase your ticket. Ticket prices are \$15.

I hope Hill County 4-H has a great turnout for the game!



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!!

# Livestock Project News

West Texas State Fair in Abilene will be September 9—17

South Plains Fair in Lubbock will be September 23—October 1

State Fair of Texas in Dallas will be September 30—October 23

East Texas State Fair in Tyler will be September 24—October 3

The entry deadline is August 11. Plan on attending an entry night for these shows on that day from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. 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 in August. Look in next months news letter for a specific 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 \$8 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 \$8 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



## July

- 1 Banquet RSVP Deadline
- 7 District 8 Record Book Judging, Waxahachie
- 8-10 Multi-County Camp, Palestine
- 15 **4-H Banquet**
- 19-21 4-H Summer Fun Camp
- 23-30 Texas 4-H Horse Show, Abilene
- 27 Officer Training

## August

- 10 Quality Counts Training
- 11 Major Show Entry Night
- 27 Texas Rangers Green Out Night

~Look For More Important Dates To Come~