



Victoria County 4-H Family Newsletter



December 2011

Improving Lives. Improving Texas.
Texas AgriLife Extension Service— Victoria County
528 Waco Circle, Victoria TX 77904
Phone: (361) 575-4581 Fax: (361) 572-0798
Email: victoria@ag.tamu.edu

December's Hottest Headlines:

Scholarship Opportunities for High School Seniors

Each year numerous county, district, and state scholarships are offered that fit the diversity of 4-H members and non-members. Scholarships are given for a wide variety of experiences, career goals and higher education plans. The following scholarship opportunities are currently available:

- Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship
- Area Go-Texan Scholarship
- Texas Extension Education Association Scholarship

We encourage all of our high school graduating students to take time and review each of these scholarships individually. Carry 4-H with you on your future scholastic endeavors through scholarships!



** To prepare for college and the scholarship application process, high schoolers are reminded to take the SAT or ACT test and go online to fill out a FAFSA at <http://www.fafsa.gov>*

Texas 4-H Alliance with La Quinta

Texas 4-H supporters receive a 15% discount at La Quinta hotels nationwide. The Texas 4-H Alliance Program benefits the youth of 4H!



La Quinta Returns program where you can earn frequent guest rewards points for every dollar you spend at La Quinta hotels! And redeem your points for valuable rewards including free nights, airline miles, and much more www.lq.com/returns

“TX4H Youth Discount” is available nationwide for business and leisure travel. “TX4H Youth Discount” can be obtained by calling the hotel direct, using the La Quinta toll free reservation line at 800-SLEEPLQ, or by booking online at www.lq.com using the established “TX4H Youth Discount” promotional code

2012 Photography Contest Rules & Guidelines Released

Some of the highlights include:

- Theme category is TRAINS. This theme allows 4-H members to take photos of all types of trains. Theme includes both real and model trains. Photos of train accessories such as stations/depots, signs, tracks, etc are not allowed.
- STORY BOARD has been added back as a category.
- Formatting has been simplified
- Both entry form and uploading of photos will be done on 4-H Connect in April, 2012 (for state contest)

To download a copy of the rules, visit the website at: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/youth/photography/>

Websites:

- Texas 4-H:
<http://texas4-h.tamu.edu>
- District II 4-H:
<http://dll4-h.tamu.edu>
- Victoria County:
<http://victoria.agrilife.org>

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December 2011

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|--|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 District Food Show/Food Challenge Coastal Bend Classic Prospect Show |
| 4 | 5 | 6 Consumer Ed. meeting, 6pm | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 Ambassador Mtg. 7 pm | 13 Rifle Project sign-up 5-7 Consumer Ed. meeting, 6pm | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Christmas Holiday– Extension Office Closed | 24 |
| 25 Christmas Holiday– Extension Office Closed | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

Important dates in January ...

- **Rifle Project Sign Up and first project meeting**
January 3, 2012 @ 5:00pm at the 4-H Activity Center
- **Adult Leaders' Association & County 4-H Council Meetings**
January 17, 2012 @ 5:30pm at the 4-H Activity Center

Each club needs to have representatives at both meetings to discuss important county-wide issues and represent their club in voting.



Consumer Education

Do you care about money? Is bargain shopping right up your alley? If so, the Consumer Education project is for you!

In the 4-H Consumer Education project, you will learn:

- how to process information to make the best economical choices for a given situation;
- how to comparison shop by price, product quality, or store/manufacture;
- how to use skills or improved practices related to financial literacy and money management;
- the rights and responsibilities of consumers;

Project meetings have been scheduled as follows: Nov. 29, **Dec. 6, Dec. 13, Jan. 10 (field trip-tba), Jan. 24, Feb. 7 and Feb. 21**. The District contest will be in April. For more information call project leader Katie Schneider at 485-1927.

Rifle

4-H Rifle project sign-up will be **December 13th from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** at the Victoria 4-H Activity Center; and January 3, 2012, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. at the Victoria 4-H Activity Center.

The first project meeting will be held immediately following sign-up on January 3rd at 6:00 P.M. and will continue to meet every Tuesday and Thursday for three weeks from 6-7 P.M. at the Activity Center. Project cost is \$50.00 (ammo and rifles provided). Eye and ear protection will be required once the safety meeting is completed.

Mandatory attendance is required January 3rd for the safety portion of the project. All returning shooters can register on either date, but must attend the first meeting. Returning shooters will begin practice for competitions on January 3, 2012 from 7:00—8:30 p.m.

For more information call Stan or Audra Portis at 782-1815.

Lamb & Goat

3rd Annual Chupacabra Classic

Saturday, January 7, 2012 at the Friar Ag Center in Cuero. This is a TCLA Sanctioned Lamb and TCMGA Sanctioned Goat Show and is open to any FFA or 4-H member.

Ring A Lambs—Ring B Goats: Judge Todd Swift

Ring A Goats—Ring B Lambs: Judge Izzy Cardenas

Ring A—50% payback, 60% if over 100 head.

Ring B—Points & Prizes

Entry Fees: Ring A \$25/head, Ring B \$15/head (no late fees)

Weight cards due at 9:00 a.m.

Both Ring A Lambs & Goats start at 10:00 a.m.

Ring B will follow ASAP

Rules: 4lb. Weigh back for both lambs & goats, does & wethers show together, no minimum/maximum weight, no tooth rule, classify your own and all TJLA rules will be enforced. Lamb classes broken by breed & weight. Goat classes broken by weight. Must show in Ring A in order to show in Ring B.

For more information call Mike Wuensche at 361-550-1151 or Danny Blank at 361-579-8499

Rabbit

Market Rabbit ear tattooing (for Victoria Livestock Show) will be **Saturday, January 28, 2012 at the 4-H Activity Center beginning at 12:00 noon**. Time slots for tattooing will be randomly assigned to families and families will be notified of their time slot in advance.

Market Rabbit Spring Clinic

Saturday, January 28, 2012

3:00-5:00 p.m. @ 4-H Activity Center



Livestock Project News

Victoria Livestock Show - February 26 - March 5, 2012

December

- 3 - Entry deadline for Sweepstakes Heifers (forms are available at the Extension Office)
- 3 - Entry deadline for Pony Show
- 3 - Market Hog, Carcass Hog, Breeding Gilt Tag in 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. VLS Pavilion

January

- 12 - Broilers arrive (pick up at designated time and location)
- 15 - Last day to withdraw market and carcass entries. Contact respective division chairman to withdraw.
- 15 - Entry deadline for Ag Mechanics Show
- 15 - Entry deadline for VLS Scholarships
- 28 - Rabbit validation and tattooing (12:00 p.m. at the 4-H Activity Center)

February

- 4 - Scholarship Applications due
- 10 - Entry fee deadline for Breeding Gilts (forms are available at the Extension Office)
Last day to have gilts registered in exhibitor's name.

Prospect Shows

Take advantage of prospect shows as they become available. These shows afford you the chance to get your animal out and gain some valuable show ring experience.

Coastal Bend Classic (cattle, lambs, goats, hogs) - December 3rd in Sinton

Chupacabra Class (lambs & goats) - January 7th in Cuero

For more prospect shows visit: www.theshowbox.com

Calf Scramble Reports

Please remember that copies of your calf scramble reports are due to the Extension Office by the 15th of each month.



If you would like to highlight someone or something on the "4-H Stars" page or submit information for the newsletter please email me at ddsullivan@ag.tamu.edu by the 22nd of each month!!



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