



Victoria County 4-H Family Newsletter



September 2011

Improving Lives. Improving Texas.
Texas AgriLife Extension Service— Victoria County
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September's Hottest Headlines:

Websites:

Texas 4-H:

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

District II 4-H :

<http://dll4-h.tamu.edu>

Victoria County:

<http://victoria.agrilife.org>

Welcome to the 2011-2012 4-H year!

We would like to welcome you to the new 4-H year! The 4-H program in Victoria County continues to grow and we are very excited to introduce new projects and activities to meet the diverse interests of our members.

The club managers, project leaders, volunteers, and Extension Agents have been working hard to prepare for the upcoming year. Remember to use them as a resource when you have questions or need help starting up a project. We are all ready and willing to assist you in any way possible!

Last but not least, don't forget about the Victoria County 4-H webpage! You can access it by going to <http://victoria.agrilife.org> and clicking on the "Victoria County 4-H" link at the top of the page. Information and activities are posted daily so you don't have to wait for the next newsletter to know what is going on.

Jump start your 4-H Experience with these upcoming opportunities you won't want to miss ...

September 18th @ 11:00 a.m.

Victoria Community Center

Support the 4-H program at the annual Harvest of Fun fundraiser! The fundraiser features games, awards, BBQ meal, and a live auction!

September 20th @ 5:30pm

4-H Activity Center

Find out what is going on in Victoria County at the Adult Leaders' Association and 4-H County Council Meetings!

October 2nd—8th

National 4-H Week

Join the festivities of National 4-H Week. Wear your 4-H shirt to school and tell your friends about 4-H!

October 8th

Texas 4-H "One Day" Campaign

See page 3 for more details!!

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SEPTEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Shogtun Mtg. 1:30 pm	5 Labor Day– Extension Office Closed	6 Archery mtg. 6:30-8:00	7 <i>Remember the Stripes Convenience Store Clover Campaign all month long!</i>	8	9	10
11	12 Hoof trimming 3pm at VLS Pavilion	13	14	15	16 Deadline for San Antonio Calf Scramble entry	17 Victoria Crossroads Classic Str/ Hfr Show Sept 17-18
18 HARVEST OF FUN!	19	20 ALA/Council meetings, 5:30pm	21	22 Major Show Update Mtg. 6:30 pm	23 Deadline to order major show barrow tags	24
25	26 <i>Have you checked on VLS rule books? Call the Extension Office for info.</i>	27	28	29	30	

Harvest of Fun Updates & Reminders

Date: Sunday, September 18, 2011

Location: Victoria Community Center

Schedule:

11:00am - Serving Line Opens
 12:00pm - Opening Ceremony
 12:30pm - Live Auction
 1:30pm - Serving Line Closes

Each club has a responsibility so check with your club manager and help out! Also, **EACH FAMILY** is asked to:

- **Sell 5 Meal Tickets** - one club check is due by Friday, September 16th for all meal tickets!
- **Bring 2 homemade cakes** for the cakewalk.
- **Bring 1 dozen cookies/brownies wrapped in pairs** for desserts.



2011-2012 4-H Enrollment

August 1st started the enrollment process for the 2011-2012 4-H year. All 4-H families, new and returning, are encouraged to log on and get enrolled as soon as possible in order to take advantage of the \$20 participation fee. As you enroll, here are some tips in using 4-H CONNECT:

- If you already have a profile DO NOT create another one!
- If you lost your e-mail or password—call the Extension Office for help.
- To be an official 4-H member in Texas 4-H you must have an ACTIVE profile in 4-H Connect!
- An active membership will not be granted until participation fee is paid.
- You cannot register for an event until your profile is ACTIVE.

Don't wait until the last minute to enroll!

Show your 4-H Support!

Stripes 4-H Clover Campaign

September 5—October 2, local Stripes stores will be selling 4-H paper clovers for \$1 to raise money for the local 4-H program! Encourage your friends and family members to purchase a 4-H clover to hang in the store's window to show their support of Victoria County 4-H. Last year over \$40,000 was raised in Texas, with 88% of that returned to participating counties by Stripes. Victoria County was a top participating county and our 4-H Adult Leaders Association received approximately \$9,000 for our efforts! So PLEASE support the program again, maybe we can top last year!

“One Day” 4H Campaign Saturday October 8th

On Saturday, October 8, 2011 Texas 4-H members are being encouraged to come together and perform a day of community service in the communities and counties that have supported our program for more than 100 years. Last year Victoria County 4-H clubs participated in a collaborative effort with Keep Victoria Beautiful to pick up trash all along Victoria roadways. One Day 4-H is our way of giving back, having fun, and making a difference to our entire community. Your challenge is to look around, see what you can do to make a difference.

Check out the one day website at: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/oneday/index.php> The website includes information on how to get started, logos to promote your event, news releases and other fun materials. Additionally, you can register your project starting September 1st through the website.

This year each 4-H club is asked to choose a community service at your September club meeting. Some suggestions are: Victoria Food Bank, Christ's Kitchen, VCAM, Dorothy O'Connor Pet Adoption Center, Adopt-a-Pet, Keep Victoria Beautiful, American Red Cross, City of Victoria Environmental Services (Recycling) and Habitat for Humanity. Each club reporter should submit a summary / photos by November 1 to the Extension Office of your club's activity to be forwarded to the State 4-H Office.



4-H Night at the Ballpark

Saturday, September 3, 2011

Houston Astros vs. Milwaukee Brewers

Special Pricing to Texas 4-H members to come out and participate in a fun filled evening at Minute Maid Park! Arrive early as representatives from 4-H will be recognized during a pre-game ceremony. Portion of the proceeds support county 4-H programs and the Texas 4-H Foundation.

Tractor Supply Company Clover Campaign

The TSC clover campaign will be September 21– October 2. Please visit our local TSC store and support 4-H during this time.



Archery

The first Archery project meeting for the new 4-H year will be held **Tuesday, September 6th from 6:30 –8:00 p.m.** at the Straight Arrow Archery Complex located at 60 Storehouse Drive. This will be an orientation/safety meeting.

The Archery Project is open to all 4-H youth that are currently enrolled in a community club in Victoria County.

For more information contact project leaders Sharleen Gaskamp at 218-4369 or Janet Lesak at 920-7770.

Food & Nutrition

The food and nutrition project will kick off the year with a workshop on **Sunday, October 9th from 1:30-3:30 at the 4-H Activity Center.** (See enclosed flyer)

Information regarding the upcoming County and District Food Show and Food Challenge Contest will also be distributed at the workshop.

The project will be collecting canned, non-perishable food items to donate to local food pantries. Help us enrich our community by bringing your donation to the October 9th workshop!!

Call the Extension Office (575-4581) to RSVP for the workshop by Friday, September 30th.

Cattle Hoof Trimming

A cattle hoof trimming will be held at 3 p.m. on Monday, September 12th at the VLS Pavilion. For more information or if you have questions, call Darrell Hempel at 649-6961.

Community Service Opportunity

The Salvation Army of Victoria is in need of volunteers and donations of bottled water and non-perishable snacks. This is for the cooling station for the homeless of Victoria during these hot summer months. If you'd like to help or donate, contact Doc at the Salvation Army at 361-433-1719.

Horse

It's time for Horse Judging to get rolling again! If you are interested in horse judging this year please contact Jennifer Chastain at 361-218-1329. Last year our ONLY Senior judge qualified for State! Practice will be a minimum of two times per month, please take this into consideration before committing to this activity, but it is a fun learning opportunity.

Shotgun

The 4-H Shotgun project is open to new members at this time. 4-H Shotgun project has their own 4-H club which normally meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month in conjunction with shotgun practice times. If you are interested in joining the 4-H Shotgun project you will be required to attend a mandatory safety orientation before you will be allowed to participate. Participants will learn gun safety and shooting skills needed to shoot American Skeet and Trap and Whiz Bang (5-stand sporting clays). Project / Club Sign-up and Mandatory Safety Orientation for new members will be held Sunday, September 4th at 1:30 p.m or Wednesday, October 5th at 6:00 p.m. (please call Tammy or Kirk Barringer at 575-6611 to RSVP) or e-mail the Barringers at tbtwins@hotmail.com for more information about the Shotgun project and/or Shotgun 4-H Club.

For additional project information, visit us online at <http://agrilife.org/victoria4h>

Contact information as well as online resources are available for your use!



Emergency Preparedness Tips for Livestock Projects:

Before a Disaster—

- Make sure animal projects are properly identified. Record the tag or identification number and have a written description of the project.
- Have an escape route planned to move livestock projects to higher ground during a flood.
- Move feed and hay supplies out of flood prone areas.

During a Disaster—

- When frightened, livestock will have a tendency to seek shelter in a barn, even if it has standing water.
- Move animals away from flooded areas and provide fresh feed and water.
- Turn off electrical power to barns and other structures that may become damaged or flooded.

After a Disaster—

- Account for any missing animals.
- Spray livestock with insect repellent to protect them against disease carrying mosquitoes.
- Dispose of trash, limbs, wire and damaged equipment that could harm livestock.
- Observe livestock for signs of infectious disease such as pneumonia or foot rot.

It is with sadness but best wishes that we say goodbye to two County Extension Agents:



Our 4-H Agent, Sarah Brandes began her teaching career this year with Aloe Elementary and Family & Consumer Sciences Agent, Sarah Womble continues her Extension career as the District 10 4-H Specialist.

Good luck to them both!



Congratulations to **Kyle Barringer** for placing 5th at the State 4-H Record Book Contest with his Shooting Sports book, and **Chris Wood** for placing 6th with his Wildlife & Fisheries book!

If you would like to highlight someone or something on the “4-H Stars” page please email the info to DeAnne at ddsullivan@ag.tamu.edu by the 22nd of each month!!

This edition of the 4-H Family Newsletter is sponsored by :



Victoria County Farm Bureau

Please contact the Extension Office anytime if you have a question or concern.

Sam Womble
County Extension Agent-Natural Resources
Victoria County

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. A member of the Texas A&M University System and its statewide Agriculture Program.



Major Show Junior Market Broiler Exhibitors

The rules and regulations for the 2012 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo, and Star of Texas Fair and Rodeo Junior Market Broiler division are available online. If you are interested in ordering chicks for any of the above mentioned shows, contact the Extension Office by Friday, September 30th. More information is available online at <http://posc.tamu.edu> including the latest edition of the Youth Poultry Newsletter.

★Houston Calf Scramble - For more information, visit <http://www.rodeohouston.com>

Entries will be available online starting Oct. 1 - Dec. 1. Spots are filled on a first come first serve basis. Certificates \$1500.

★Star of Texas Calf Scramble - For additional information, visit <http://www.staroftexas.org>

New format for 2012-entries begin Jan. 15 to the show; \$25 entry fee. Certificates \$1,000—\$5,000.

★San Antonio Calf Scramble - For more information please visit <http://www.sarodeo.com>

Those interested in participating in the San Antonio Calf Scramble contact the Extension office by Sep. 16th. Certificates \$800.

★Ft. Worth Calf Scramble—For additional information, visit <http://www.fwssr.com>

Entries available online Oct. 1. Spots are filled on first come first serve basis. Certificates \$500.

Major Show Barrow Tags

The deadline to order major show barrow tags is fast approaching. Contact the Extension Office by Friday, September 23rd with your order. Tags are \$10 each. Validation is Tue., November 29th from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at Victoria East High School.

Major Show Lamb and Goat Validation

Date: Tuesday, October 18th 4:30 p.m.

Location: VLS Pavilion

If you are planning on showing a lamb or goat at Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Houston, or Austin you must have your project state validated. You should have already ordered your state validation tags. If you have not paid for your tags (\$10/each), please stop by the office and do so. Exhibitors and parents are required to attend to complete necessary paperwork.

Major Show Update Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 22nd 6:30 p.m.

Location: Extension Office

Exhibitors planning on participating at a major show in 2012 are encouraged to attend to receive important information and updates. We will also discuss the Quality Counts Verification Requirement.

Major Show Sign Up

Date: Tuesday, November 8th 6:30 p.m.

Location: 4-H Activity Center

If you are not able to attend please call the Extension Office in advance to schedule an appointment. Remember, if you state validated animal projects or caught in a calf scramble you will need to complete major show entries. **In addition, make sure you complete the Quality Counts Verification Requirement.**

VLS Rule Books

Rule books are scheduled to be delivered to the Extension Office around September 20th. 4-H club managers are encouraged to stop by prior to your October meeting. Please call in advance.

Animal Projects

If you need help in securing a livestock project or would like for me to come look at your project please call me at the Extension Office at 575-4581. I'll be glad to help you. Later this fall & winter, livestock project workshops will be offered to assist you. Volunteer leaders give of their time to plan and coordinate these activities so please make every effort to attend. Lastly, remember to provide a clean, fresh supply of water to your animal projects. You can help your animals beat the heat by running fans and keeping them clipped.



Quality Counts Requirement for Major Livestock Shows (DEADLINE NOVEMBER 1)

Quality counts verification for 4-H and FFA livestock exhibitors has been in the works for a while and beginning this upcoming show season will be **MANDATORY**. All Texas Major Livestock Shows will require youth exhibitors to have completed training and testing in quality counts. Verification will be part of the entry process. With no verification number (certifying that an exhibitor successfully completed the online test) exhibitors will not be able to enter a major livestock show. Youth exhibitors will be asked 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 at (<http://qualitycounts.tamu.edu/>) and acquire a Quality Counts Verification number.**

Youth can review an online module <http://qualitycounts.tamu.edu/texas-trails/> to study for the test. All the test questions and answers are covered on the online module. Additionally, there is a power point presentation that covers more of the program specifics. Click the **verification** link on the quality counts website at the address above to access the slides as well as the test.

Important Reminders:

The test is required for both 4-H and FFA members (youth involved in both organizations need to select both organizations when they log in).

There are two tests - a Junior/Intermediate and a Senior test. The junior/intermediate test is 10 questions, senior test is 20 questions. Youth will have to pass the test once within each age group. For example, a junior 4-H member passes the test and will use the same verification number until he or she becomes a senior 4-H member. At that time, he or she will need to take the senior test. The test can be taken as many times as needed. A score of 80 or above = passing. The verification number is required to complete major show entries. At the conclusion of successfully completing the test, you will be given a certificate to print off designating your individual verification number.

There are currently nine (9) 4-H members that have completed this requirement. Please take care of this ASAP!

Prospect Shows

If you are interested in attending some prospect shows, please consider purchasing a subscription to The Showbox magazine or visit their website at www.theshowbox.com. Each month, they include a section entitled On the Road Again which lists several prospect show opportunities. For more information on the following shows, stop by the office.

Victoria Crossroads Classic (steers and heifers) - September 17-18—VLS Pavilion

Coastal Bend Classic (cattle, lambs, and goats; plus new pig clinic) - December 3—San Patricio County Fairgrounds, Sinton

Chupacabra Classic (lambs and goats) - January 7—Friar Ag Center, Cuero

2012 Victoria Livestock Show—February 27—March 5

Keep in mind the following important dates as they relate to your animal projects:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| October 8 | Cattle Tag in (mkt. steers, carcass steers, commercial hfrs) 8:00-11:00 a.m., Briggs Ranch, Bloomington |
| October 15 | VLS Carcass & Market Lamb / Goat Tag in—8:00-10:00 a.m., VLS Pavilion
Broiler orders/fees due and Rabbit forms/fees due |
| October 18 | Major Show Lamb & Goat Validation—4:30 p.m., VLS Pavilion (also VLS lambs & goats) |
| November 12 | Carcass & Market Hog / Breeding Gilt Tag in—8:00—10:00 a.m., VLS Pavilion
Broiler orders/fees due and Rabbit forms/fees due (if not done October 15) |
| November 30 | Major Show Barrow Validation—3:00-5:00 p.m., Victoria East High School |
| December 3 | Carcass and Market Hog / Breeding Gilt Tag in—8:00-9:00 a.m., VLS Pavilion |

2012 VLS Judges:

Lamb & Goat Sifter—Zach Davis/ Judge—Roel Garza
Steer Sifter—Philip Shackelford/ Judge—Brandon Callis
Hog Sifter—Brett Wright / Judge—Al Schminke
Sweepstakes—Neely Nelson
Carcass Judge—Davey Griffin

Broiler—Jacob Coppedge
Rabbit—Mary Jo Terry
Breeding Gilt—Jason Hodde
Jr. Heifer Show—Jason Guidry, Ryan Cummins
Showmanship—Peter McGuill, Dustin Coufal