Montgomery County 4-H Focus

It’s that time of year again!!
Welcome back returning 4-H’ers!!
Welcome new 4-H’ers!!
Lots of exciting events planned throughout the year.

2019-2020 4-H Connect Enrollment
JOIN THE CLUB

4-H Connect will go offline August 12-14, 2019 for general maintenance and preparation for the new 4-H year enrollment. The new 4-H year officially begins on September 1, 2019. Each year starts out with zero enrollment. This means all 4-H members, whether new or returning, must complete their enrollment through 4-H Connect to become an active 4-H member. Returning members do not complete a new profile. You log in-to your existing profile, update all info, and pay the participation fee. Duplicate profiles will get deleted. Enroll as soon as possible so that you don’t miss out on any weekly update emails.

Texas 4-H Connect: https://texas.4honline.com
Enrollment will begin on August 15, 2019.

Nobody is too old for 4-H!! Adult volunteers or adults who wish to attend District or State trainings will create/update their profile and pay a yearly $10 fee (this helps cover the cost of background screenings)

TEXAS 4-H CONNECT WEBSITE:
https://texas.4honline.com

4-H FOCUS is available on the Montgomery County 4-H webpage.
WEBSITE: http://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/

HOW DOES THE 4-H OFFICE COMMUNICATE WITH YOU?
Through weekly update emails, bi-monthly 4-H Focus, a webpage & Facebook.

WEEKLY EMAILS: these are sent weekly, typically every Friday, to the primary and secondary emails on the 4-H Connect account

4-H FOCUS: if you would like to receive a hard mailed copy of the 2019-2020 4-H Focus to your home address you will need to pay a $5 subscription fee. Subscriptions can be paid at your Club meeting or to the 4-H office.
$5 per family. It will also be available on the Montgomery County 4-H webpage for free.

Be sure to keep your 4-H Connect profile up-to-date so that you don’t miss any important news!!!
COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council meetings are held the 4th Monday of the Month at 7:00 p.m. at the Extension Office, unless noted otherwise. Everybody is welcome to attend. Club delegates are strongly encouraged to attend.

**NEXT MEETING: August 24, 2019**
before Leadership Team Training

**September Meeting: September 23, 2019**
Program Activity: Food Challenge
Community Service Project: Strake Place, on site help at a local assisted living facility. Contact Justin for more information if interested in volunteering.

It was voted on to do away with highlight clubs at the County Council meetings. The elected officers want to focus on retaining members through fun, hands-on program activities. Each month will now feature an educational, hands-on contest activity.

We encourage all members throughout the county to not only be active on your club level but also be active at the County level.

**Leadership Team Training**
Saturday, August 24, 2019
Time: 8:30am
Mont. Co. Fairgrounds Exhibit Building

The Leadership team training is an annual training that is essential for club officers, their parents, managers, assistant managers, and project leaders. BUT, everybody is welcome to attend. Officers will learn their duties and responsibilities in the positions they’ve been elected to. Adults will gain the resources they need to better support youth members and projects.

Please RSVP to the 4-H office, 936-539-7823, ext. 3

**Fall Fundraiser**

It’ll be that time of year again. Now is a good time to start thinking about the 4-H Pecan Sale Fundraiser. This is the major source of income for the Montgomery County 4-H program. These funds go directly back to you in the form of educational programs, registration fees, and equipment and curriculum.

THE MORE YOU SALE, THE MORE YOU HAVE!!

You can start now by making a list of friends, family members, and neighbors that would be interested. Members can pick up their fundraiser packet at their September club meeting.

September - October is your time to sale pecans. ALL orders will be due back to your club’s pecan leader at your October monthly club meeting unless your pecan leader has set up an alternate date/time.

**NO orders are to be turned directly in to the 4-H office. ALL orders must be given to the club’s pecan leader!!**

**WHAT PROJECT IS FOR ME? .... County Project Workshops**

Sometimes the best way to figure out if a project is for you or to venture off into a new project is to attend a County Project Workshop. These workshops are open to all County 4-H members to come learn and explore 4-H possibilities. Whether you are active in the project or new to it, make plans to attend!! Stay tuned to our Facebook page and emails to find out about the planned workshops for the upcoming 4-H year.
COMMISSIONER’S COURT APPRECIATION

Tuesday, September 24, 2019
The purpose of this event is to show our Commissioners & County Judge how much we appreciate their support of 4-H in Texas, and to showcase the highlights of the 4-H program in Montgomery County.
We will attend Commissioner’s Court and present each Commissioner and the County Judge with a specially prepared basket filled with items donated by our clubs.

Each club is encouraged to contribute and donate 5 identical gift items for the baskets. Ideas include treats baked by the club’s food & nutrition project members, mugs, candles, etc.
Please keep in mind our Commissioners' Court is made up of all male representatives.
These items need to be to the 4-H office by Friday, September 20th.

Volunteers—we also need volunteers (members & adults) to help present the baskets. If you would like to help out, please call the 4-H office to sign-up by Friday, September 20th.

LIVESTOCK PROJECTS

SPRING 2020 MAJOR SHOW VALIDATION ORDERS
*Austin  *Ft. Worth  *Houston  *San Angelo  *San Antonio
Heifers, Lambs, Goats, & Swine

HEIFER Validation
If you have not validated your heifer before, or if the heifer has been validated but has changed ownership, registration papers must be in the exhibitor’s name. 4-H members should bring the papers to the 4-H Office prior to validation so that they can be scanned.
If you’re not going to State Fair there will be another Heifer Validation in October 2019.
Cost: $15 per tag
Cost $15 per tag .... Orders Due by: Thursday, August 29, 2019
**ALL orders are due by this date, there will not be a late order timeline
VALIDATION
Date: October 28, 2019  Time: 4:00-7:00pm  Location: The Montgomery County Fairgrounds

LAMB & GOAT Validation
Any member who would like to show a lamb or goat at the Fall major shows must complete the validation process, including ordering tags and coming to validation. TLBA tags must be in lambs Ears before it can be marked on the validation form.
Cost: $15 per tag .... Orders due by: Thursday, August 15, 2019
VALIDATION
Date: October 29, 2019  Time: 4:00-7:00pm  Location: The Montgomery County Fairgrounds

SWINE Validation
Any member who would like to show a pig at the Fall major shows must first complete the validation process, including ordering tags and coming to validation.
**NEW .... Purebred Gilts must be validated
Cost: $15 per tag .... Orders due by: Thursday, August 29, 2019
VALIDATION
Date: November 19, 2019  Time: 4:00-7:00pm  Location: The Montgomery County Fairgrounds

**Livestock Validation refers to the multi-step process including ordering tags if you intend to show at any of
the Major shows.
This is not for County Fair animals
POULTRY

San Antonio - Houston - Rodeo Austin
BROILER orders
Due to the 4-H office by Wednesday, September 4, 2019 by 5:00pm
Each show will have a separate order. You will be ordering birds for each show and not birds for all 3 shows. Please contact the 4-H office if you need more clarification.
Order forms can be obtained from the 4-H office or online at: https://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/major-shows/

San Antonio - Houston - Rodeo Austin - Montgomery County Fair
TURKEY Orders
Due to the 4-H office Thursday, August 1, 2019 by 5:00pm
You will need to specify County Birds only or County and Major Show birds.
Order forms can be obtained from the 4-H office or online at: https://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/major-shows/

Major Show Calf Scramble
If you would like to participate in a Calf Scramble at one of the major livestock shows this Spring, please complete and submit the Major Show Calf Scramble Application.
Applications DUE to the 4-H office by September 12, 2019.
This application will allow us to contact interested parties when the registration forms for each of the shows becomes available.
The application form can be found at: https://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/major-shows/

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR
March 27 - April 5, 2020
Continue to check the Fair webpage for more dates and show information. www.mcfa.org

Fall Major Shows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Show</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Texas State Fair</td>
<td>Tyler, TX</td>
<td>Sept. 20-29, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Fair of Texas</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>Sept. 27 - Oct. 20, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart O’ Texas</td>
<td>Waco, TX</td>
<td>October 3-13, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fall Show Entries

State Fair of Texas
Heart of Texas
East Texas State Fair

Entry Day: August 15, 2019
Time: 5:00pm - 7:00pm
Location: The Extension Office

Heifers and Market Animals must be validated to be eligible.
If you plan on competing in any of the above listed shows you must complete an entry.

What to bring to entry night to complete & submit an entry:

- 4-H Member
- 4-H Member’s Social Security Number
- Quality Counts Verification number
- Parent
- Method of payment
- Heifer entries must bring registration papers
- Pure bred Gilts must bring papers

Livestock & Non-Livestock participants must submit an entry at this entry night

**If you cannot make this entry day, you must make arrangements with the 4-H office to get your entries completed**
Non-Livestock Projects

Non-Livestock Major Show Events
Fall Major Show NON-LIVESTOCK contests:
Registration for these contests will take place at the Fall Show Entry Night.
When: August 15, 2019
Time: 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Spring 2020 Major Shows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fort Worth</td>
<td>Jan. 17 - Feb. 8, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio</td>
<td>Feb. 6-23, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Angelo</td>
<td>Jan. 30 - Feb. 16, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>March 3-22, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rodeo Austin</td>
<td>March 16-30, 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spring 2020 Major Show Entries

State Fair of Texas
Heart of Texas
East Texas State Fair
Entry Day: Nov. 3, 2019 3-5pm
Nov. 4, 2020 5-7pm
Location: The Extension Office
Heifers and Market Animals must be validated to be eligible.
If you plan on competing in any of the above listed shows you must complete an entry.
What to bring to entry night to complete & submit an entry:
• 4-H Member
• 4-H Member’s Social Security Number
• Quality Counts Verification number
• Parent
• Method of payment
• Heifer entries must bring registration papers
• Pure bred Gilts must bring papers

Livestock & Non-Livestock participants must submit an entry at this entry night
**If you cannot make this entry day, you must make arrangements with the 4-H office to get your entries completed

Hatching in the Classroom
The 4-H office is making loaner incubators, along with egg turners, available to teachers from August 19 – September 13.
What better way to learn life cycles than to watch one happen before your very eyes?
Do you have a teacher that would be interested in hosting this project?
Have your teacher reach out to our Program Assistant, Jo.
jo.picken@ag.tamu.edu or 936-539-7823, ext.3 for details.
**Dog Project**
In the dog project, participants learn about dog care and training. Beginners work on obedience and showmanship/conformation, while advanced members work on agility and drill or rally. Dogs may be purebred or mixed and age is not a factor. All dogs must be up-to-date on vaccinations. New dogs/handlers will need to take a beginner’s obedience class offered in the fall with an evaluation at the end or schedule an evaluation before being integrated into the main group. To get on the beginner’s class interest list, please register at: [http://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/event-sign-up/dog-project-interest-list/](http://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/event-sign-up/dog-project-interest-list/)

**Vet Science Project**
The 4-H Veterinary Science Project is a 5 year curriculum based project with a set number of lessons and activities, that gives youth interested in veterinary medicine a chance to work in the field and see if they would like to pursue it as a career. After a member has completed the program, they may apply to take a test to become a Certified Veterinary Assistant. 4-H members may begin the project at any age, but have to be 16 years old in order to apply to take the test.
To learn more about the program, visit: [http://aevm.tamu.edu/4-h-veterinary-science/curriculum/](http://aevm.tamu.edu/4-h-veterinary-science/curriculum/)
We currently have 2 active Vet Science groups within our County. For more information on them, contact the 4-H office.

**Shooting Sports**
Anyone currently enrolled in 4-H is eligible to participate in shooting sports. All participants are required to complete a 4-H Home Firearm Safety Class. There is typically a Fall and Spring class. Currently there is a waiting list so if you are interested contact the 4-H office for more information or register your name on the shooting sports interest list at this link: [http://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/event-sign-up/shooting-sports-safety-training-interest-list/](http://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/event-sign-up/shooting-sports-safety-training-interest-list/)

**Robotics**
Robots are all around us. This project promotes the learning of basic science concepts and application of the scientific inquiry method and engineering design. Members have the opportunity to design, build, and test a robot. To be added to the Robotics interest list, please go to this link: [http://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/event-sign-up/4-h-robotics-project-interest-list/](http://agrilife.org/montgomery4h/event-sign-up/4-h-robotics-project-interest-list/)

---

**4-H Roundup**

WHO DOESN’T WANT TO BE A PART OF THE BIGGEST EVENTS IN 4-H??!!
With so many project activities everyone can find something that interests them. If you start now reviewing the available contests, we can help answer any questions and help you prep for competition.

[https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/roundup/](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/roundup/)

**What is County, District, & State Roundup………**
Competitive events allowing 4-H members the opportunity to develop & practice citizenship and leadership skills. It consists of approximately 50 competitive events.
Each year contests are held throughout the counties, the twelve Texas A&M AgriLife Extension districts, and at the state level hosted in College Station.

---

**Discover Yourself in 4-H**

**ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE. TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH.**
- HELEN KELLER
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>San Antonio, Houston, Rodeo Austin, MCF Turkey Orders DUE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Awards Banquet RSVP deadline</td>
<td></td>
<td>2019-2020 4-H year enrollment begins</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>* Fall Major Show Entry Day</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>* Spring major show Sheep &amp; Goat tag orders DUE</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>County Awards Banquet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>County Leadership Team Training</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>County Awards Banquet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spring Major Shows Swine &amp; Heifer tag orders DUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Sat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>San Antonio - Houston - Rodeo Austin BROILER orders DUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spring Major Show calf scramble aps DUE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Commissioner’s Court Gifts due to 4-H office</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Commissioner’s Court Appreciation Day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Fall Fundraiser**: Make sure you get your Pecan Fundraiser Packet at your Club’s September Meeting.
If you have special needs for any of the programs offered at the County or District level, please give us at least five days’ notice. We will make every reasonable effort to accommodate your needs.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County