



December 2011

Texas AgriLife Extension Service – Hood County Office
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4-H Club Meetings

December 1st - Lipan 4-H Club, 6:30 p.m. at the Lipan Community Center

December 6th -Tolar 4-H Club, 6:30 p.m. meeting will be held at the Courts Cleveland Show Barn at Reunion Fair Grounds. Guest Speaker is Dr. Barry Lambert with Animal Sciences from Tarleton State University. Please bring a canned good for the Christmas Project. All clubs are invited to attend.

December 5th - Hood County Young Riders, 7:00 p.m. at the Reunion Fair Grounds

December 5th, 12th, 19st & 26th - K9's & Kids 4-H Club, Clover & Juniors from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Intermediate & Seniors from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for Rally-Obedience-Showmanship Classes and Regular Business Meeting on December 12, 2011 starting at 6:00 p.m. at 5110 N. Gate Rd in Granbury (Paws 2 Play) Agility Class will be on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.

December 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th - Shooting Sports 4-H Club, 6:00 p.m. at the Reunion fair Grounds



December 12th - Lake Granbury Community 4-H Club, 7:00 p.m. at the Hood County Annex 1 Meeting Room

December 14th - Cornerstone 4-H Club, 3:30 p.m. at the Cornerstone Christian Academy



4-H Christmas Party

We will have our county wide 4-H Christmas party on December 10, 2011, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The 4-H Council has planned some fun games and activities. I am working on booking the facility and will e-mail that information in the next day or two. The council delegates volunteered each club to bring the following:

K-9's & Kids – Drinks
Young Riders Horse Club – Chips
Cornerstone 4-H – Dips
Lake Granbury – Sweets
Tolar – Paper goods
Lipan – Drinks
Sharp Shooters – Paper goods

3 Meeting Rule

Don't forget to exhibit at the Hood County Junior Livestock Show you must attend (3) three business meetings. If you have any questions give us a call.



Pancake Breakfast

The county show is just around the corner. Our annual pancake breakfast fundraiser will take place on January 13, 2012. We need 4-H'ers parents and volunteers to call or e-mail me and sign up to work.



Christmas Tree Recycling

We will once again recycle Christmas trees as a community service project. This year's event will take place on January 7, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. until noon at Arrow Feed on Hwy. 377. We need 4-H'ers to come out and unload trees and bag mulch for a couple of hours.

Google Calendar Update

We have added the 2011-2012 4-H Dates to the Google calendar. Many of these District and State Dates are tentative right now. We will continue to update these as we get more information. If your club wants to put meeting information on the calendar let us know and we will add the information.

4-H Shirts

We have finalized the t-shirt design. I will be e-mailing out ordering directions in the next day or two. You will be able to order your shirts until December 14th, 2011. This will ensure we get them by the County Stock Show.

4-H Record Books

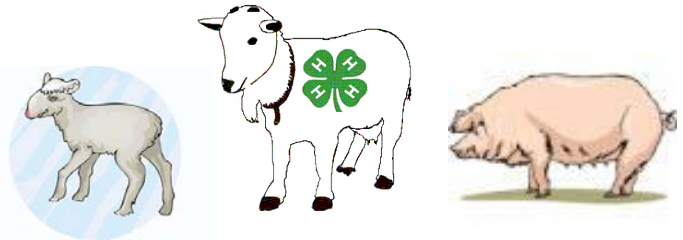
This year there is a change in 4-H Record Books. The forms have now gone to more of an online format. You can now go to <http://4hreports.com>, you will log in and can get forms there. There is also a 15 minute you tube video that gives more information. We will have some workshops in the spring to help everyone out.



K9's and Kids Presents 1st Annual

Hood County Dog Show

On January 28, 2012 the K9's and Kids 4-H Dog Club will host their 1st Annual Hood County Dog Show. The check in time will be at 9:00 a.m. at the Reunion Fairgrounds at 641 Reunion Court in Granbury. To register for the event contact k9sandkids@windstream.net or call (682) 936-6472. All registration forms are due by January 21, 2012 there is a \$5 fee per class. There will be a concession stand, prize drawings, silent auction and lots of information. For an entry form you can stop by the Extension Office.



Livestock & Project News

4-H Practice Show

We will have our 4-H Practice Show on December 3, 2011 at the Fairgrounds. Please see enclosed flyer for more details.

County Stock Show Eligibility Form

We will be mailing out eligibility forms of the county show the week of December 12, 2011. It is your responsibility to take these forms to your school get them signed and return them to the Extension Office prior to the County Stock Show starting on January 11, 2012. If you do not receive your form in the mail it is also your responsibility to contact the office.



Rabbit Validation

Rabbits will be validated from 8:00 a.m. until Noon on December 10, 2011 at the Reunion Fair Grounds.

Stock Show Projects

If you need help with your project for this year's show season please give me a call. I will be glad to help. We have scales and clippers you can check out as well.

Steak Lunch at the County Show

Please be sure to turn in your tickets and money for the steak dinner to the Extension Office no later than January 3, 2012. We are trying to get an accurate meal count so we buy the right amount of food.

2012 Hood County Livestock Show Judges

Cattle – Bryan Reynolds, CEA-AG in Tahoka
Swine – Brad Bevel, Ag Science Teacher in Stamford
Goats – Billy Zanolini, CEA-AG in Madisonville
Sheep – Jeff Ripley, Texas AgriLife Extension Specialist
Poultry – James Barbee, Burleson
Rabbit – Michael Franke, Cedar Park

Livestock Raisers Association

The HCLRA meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm at the fairgrounds. We need more 4-H families to get involved with this group. They make the rules for the county show, up-keep the facilities and provide us a place and opportunity to show our projects. Next meeting is December 15, 2011.



Texas 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest

The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc. is sponsoring the national 2012 4-H essay contest. Williamson and Collin County Bee Keepers Associations are sponsoring the Texas 4-H beekeeping essay contest. The contest is open to all active 4-H club members, who have not previously placed nationally. The deadline for entries to be in

(not post marked) the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Office is January 13, 2012.

National Cash Prizes to 3 Top Winners:

1st Place: \$750.00

2nd Place: \$500.00

3rd Place: \$250.00

Each State Winner, including the national winners, receives an appropriate book about honey bees, beekeeping or honey.

Texas Cash Prizes to 3 Top Winners

1st Place: \$100.00

2nd Place: \$75.00

3rd Place: \$50.00

TOPIC:

For the 2012 essay contest, the **essay topic is: "The Results of Honey Bee Pollination in My Community"**

For contest rules, guidelines and certification forms contact the Extension Office at (817) 579-3280.

Question of the Month: What time will the Agricultural Mechanics Division be judged at the Hood County Junior Livestock show?

Last month's question: What is the time and date that Rabbits will be validated for the Hood County Junior Livestock Show? The correct answer is; Rabbits will be validated from 8:00 a.m. until Noon on December 10, 2011. Congratulations to Kyle Vahlenkamp for the correct answer.



Texas 4-H Opportunities Scholarship

If you are a senior wanting to apply for one of the big 4-H Scholarships or maybe you are a Freshman or Junior thinking about applying in the near future you need to let Marty know ASAP. That way as the information is ready he can let you know. Applications will be due in late January. If you are a senior applying you need to get your FAFSA form done ASAP.

Quote of the Month:

"The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: is the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other."

-Burton Hillis-

Merry Christmas!

Marty Vahlenkamp
CEA-AG
Hood 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. Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aid, service or accommodations in order to participate in the 4-H program should contact the Hood County Office of Texas AgriLife Extension service at (817) 579-3280.