

2023-2024 Gonzales County 4-H Newsletter



Ag Agent - Dwight Sexton
Dwight.Sexton@tamu.edu



FCH Agent – Gayle C. Bludau
Gayle.Bludau@ag.tamu.edu

Welcome!

It is time for the NEW 4-H YEAR. Registration starts August 15 for 4th-12th grades. **3rd graders start to register on September 1st. Registering your 3rd grader before then will enroll your child as a Clover kid not a 4-H member.** Call the office if you need help 830.672.8531.

We have an exciting year planned. Make sure you read your monthly newsletter and highlight the activities that interest you.

Everyone is invited to the first council meeting which is scheduled for September 19! We will be discussing our Fall Service Project – Donations for the Gonzales Dog Adoption and much more!

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Special points of interest

- County 4-H Council Meeting
- 4-H Online Registration
- Major Show Exhibitor Info.
- Validation Dates
- Youth Grill Cook Off



Congratulations to the New 2023-2024 County Council Officers!



President
Addyson Kardosz



Vice-President
Audrey Thibodeaux



Secretary
Ellie Irving



Treasurer
Jaxon Beck



Reporter
Kayden Cheatham



Parliamentarian
Jayden Cheatham



Delegate
Addyson Kardosz



Delegate
Augustus Sexton



Delegate
Ellie Irving



County 4-H Council & Adult Leader Meetings

September 19th, 2023, at 6:00 P.M.

@ the County Extension Office

All Gonzales County 4-H club members are encouraged to come.

4-H Adult parents/volunteers who enroll & are approved to be members are welcome to join the Adult Leader group.

September 19
Immediately
following the 4-H
Council Meeting
**HOW TO
INTERVIEW
WORKSHOP**



Texas has more than 550,000 youth who are involved in 4-H experiences each year and we are pleased that you have decided to join 4-H! Here is some information about our enrollment process and how we need your partnership in getting your membership entered and approved. All membership records change to an inactive status in August. The Texas 4-H year officially starts on September 1 but enrollment opens on August 15th. Texas 4-H is for kids of almost any age – grades K-2 can be in Clover Kids if offered in your area. From 3rd-12th grades, you can be a regular 4-H member.

1	CONTACT YOUR COUNTY OFFICE (counties.agrilife.org/) Enrollment instructions vary by county, so check with your local county office for more information.						
2	FIND A CLUB 4-H Clubs are groups of youth and volunteers who meet on a regular basis.						
3	FIND A PROJECT Learn about topics that interest you. These are referred to as members projects.						
4	ENROLL IN TEXAS 4-H Signup on 4HOnline after you have found a club and project that is right for you!						
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Youth Club Member Participation Fee</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Clover Kid Participation Fee</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Volunteer Application Fee</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> \$25.00 - August 15 - October 31st \$30.00 - November 1 to completion of the 4-H year </td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"> \$10.00 </td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"> \$10.00 </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Youth Club Member Participation Fee	Clover Kid Participation Fee	Volunteer Application Fee	\$25.00 - August 15 - October 31st \$30.00 - November 1 to completion of the 4-H year	\$10.00	\$10.00
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ABOUT 4HONLINE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4HOnline is the official registration system for adult and youth members directly involved with 4-H. 4HOnline is a partnership between the 4-H family and the local county office. 4HOnline is a secured system that is in compliance with the PCI Security Standards Council. Texas 4-H nor 4HOnline shares or sells any personal information to third party vendors without your knowledge or permission. Each year at the start of the enrollment cycle all 4-H membership in Texas goes to zero and everyone must re-enroll. This process is based on federal accounting policies.

WHAT TO KNOW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most questions can be answered by calling the local county office. (counties.agrilife.org) An approved youth or adult member record means a person is officially enrolled with Texas 4-H. An approved youth or adult member record means a person can register for state or district level events. Adult volunteers are required to be screened through the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Volunteer Standards every three years. The screening process can take up to two weeks. A youth that is 8 years old and going into the 3rd grade must wait until September 1st to enroll for proper fees to be accessed. The Texas 4-H year officially starts on September 1.



The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife.



NEW FAMILY

1	2	3	4	
			YOUTH	Adult
Select to set up a profile Setup only one family profile per household.	Start adding members. Enter one member profile at a time. The Next button will take you through each screen.	Review Fees Youth Fees vary with date enrolled. Adult Fees pay \$10.00.	Review enrollment and fees. Click Back to make corrections. Click Submit.	Review enrollment and fees. Click Back to make corrections. Click Submit.
Enter an e-mail address that is checked often. This will be how you get communication.	Enter information in all the fields on the Questions screen. Youth Birthdate and school grade determines eligibility.	Add and select a credit card to pay for the fees.	Status changes to pending. Local county office reviews and approves.	Adult completes Screening and Required trainings.
Create a password. Requirements are displayed on the screen if not validated.	Youth selects at least one club and one project. Adult selects volunteer type, clubs and projects.	Or select payment collected by county office. A confirmation screen will popup.	Payment is locked-in. Credit card is charged or county mails payment.	Status changes to pending. Local county office approves. Payment is locked-in. Credit card is charged or county mails payment.
Complete all family information.	Complete the Health and Consents Screens. Click Next through each screen.	Select payment and agree to Payment and Refund terms.	Status changes to approved after payment is received.	Status changes to approved after payment is received, screening approved and trainings completed.

Contact the local county office before starting a profile, to make sure you are selecting a club which fits your family needs. Find your local county office online at: <http://counties.agrilife.org>

RETURNING FAMILY

1	2	3	4	
			YOUTH	Adult
Login with the family email address and password. Requirements are displayed on the screen if not validated.	Click Enroll Now next to the member's name.	Review Fees Youth Fees vary on date enrolled. Adult Fees are \$10.00.	Review Enrollment and fees. Click Back to make corrections. Click Submit.	Review Enrollment and fees. Click Back to make corrections. Click Submit.
Contact the local county Extension Office for password assistance or click Reset Password link.	You can only enroll one member at a time.	Add and select a credit card to pay for the fees.	Status changes to pending. Local county office reviews and approves.	Adult completes screening and required trainings. (if applicable)
Do Not Create a NEW Family Profile.	Click Next through each screen. You must enter school, grade, clubs and projects.	Or select payment collected by county office. A confirmation screen will popup.	Payment is locked-in. Credit card is charged or county mails payment.	Status changes to pending. Local county office approves. Payment is locked-in. Credit card is charged or county mails payment.
Review and update family information.	Complete the Health and Consents Screens.	Select payment	Status changes to approved after payment is received.	Status changes to approved after payment is received, screening approved and trainings completed.

If the family has moved to a NEW county in Texas, contact local county office to have the FAMILY PROFILE moved to the new county. **Do not create a new profile.**

The system will send automatic notifications to the family email address in the system.



HEART O' TEXAS FAIR ENTRY WORKSHEETS

Entries are available now at the Extension Office and are due back by August 18th.

STATE FAIR OF TEXAS

Entries for the State Fair of Texas need to be turned into the Extension Office by August 18th. Be sure your entries meet applicable validation requirements. The schedule and handbook are posted at bigtex.com/livestock.



Photo Credit:
State Fair of Texas

What 4-H members had to say about participating at the State Fair of Texas.

“The robotics competition at the state fair last year was the first one of our season. It was such a learning experience for us and I am excited about returning to compete this October!” - Ellie Irving

“It’s an exciting experience to compete at such a historic show that has such deep competition through several diverse events.” - Augustus Sexton



MAJOR SHOW BROILER ORDERS



Deadline-September 8th \$43.50/box of chicks.
All major livestock show broiler orders (San Antonio, Houston, and Austin) need to be ordered by September 8th.



MAJOR SHOW TURKEYS

If you are interested in showing turkeys at the major livestock shows next year, please contact the Extension Office prior to August 11, 2023 so poults can be ordered.

Gonzales County Youth Show Sheep, Goat, and Halter Heifer Exhibitors

Validation for the lambs and goats will occur **Tuesday, October 17, 2023**, from **5-6:00 pm** at the JB Wells Park.

Validation for the halter heifers will occur **Thursday October 19, 2023**, from **5-6:00 pm** at the Pecan Grove Vet. Clinic.

Rules by the Gonzales County Youth Show Association are available at <http://gonzales.agrilife.org/>



MAJOR SHOW MARKET GOAT, MARKET LAMB

BREEDING GOAT & BREEDING SHEEP EXHIBITORS

If you desire to show market goats, market lambs, breeding goats or breeding sheep, wether dam or wether does at any of the major livestock shows this coming year, your projects will need to be validated and tagged on **October 17th**. In order for this to occur, you must call the AgriLife Extension office by **August 21st** to order the ear tags that will be placed in your project.



TEXAS 4-H / FFA HEIFER VALIDATION PROGRAM

Again, this fall, there will be a major show heifer validation for any 4-H or FFA member wanting to exhibit heifers at the major livestock shows (Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Houston, Austin, Waco & Dallas. The animal ownership deadline and registration papers will need to be transferred to the exhibitor before this validation. The heifers must be tagged, tattooed, brands recorded, and hair samples will be collected for a DNA assay. There will be a **\$25 charge per heifer validated**. The validation will occur on **October 19th**, at the Pecan Grove Vet. Clinic from 5-6:00 pm. Previously major show validated heifers do not need to be re-validated unless there is a change of ownership or breed. If you have heifers to validate, please call the Extension Office to order you ear tags.

This will also serve as a validation for the Gonzales County Youth Show. Show heifer show.



TEXAS 4-H/FFA SWINE VALIDATION

All hogs that will be shown in the major shows must be validated to be eligible to participate. Validation will be held on November 28th. To assist us with ordering validation ear tags, please contact the Extension office by September 15th. If you do not order your tags, then you cannot show your animals later. The cost of the tags is \$15.00/tag.

LIVESTOCK JUDGING

We have a group of members who participate in many youth livestock judging contests. At these contests, there are four animals in a class that are placed, consisting of cattle, swine, sheep, and goats. This program is a wonderful way for kids to build confidence and improve their decision-making skills. They also learn about livestock production and life skills along the way. We will host livestock judging practices this fall as time permits and the first contest of the year is September 9th in Columbus. If you want your child to participate in these practices and contests, please notify the Extension Office so you can stay informed. Our kids have been very successful in the past and have learned much.

LULING FOUNDATION
AGRICULTURE DEMONSTRATION FARM, ESTABLISHED BY EDGAR B. DAVIS IN 1927

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
 EXTENSION



YOUTH GRILL-OFF



SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, 523 S. MULBERRY, LULING, TX

ENTRY FEE: \$20/TEAM

GET YOUR GRILL ON FOR A YOUTH BEEF BURGER COMPETITION! THE YOUTH GRILL-OFF IS OPEN TO YOUTH AGES 3RD - 12TH GRADE. ENTRY FEE IS \$20/TEAM (NON-REFUNDABLE) AND IS LIMITED TO 32 TEAM ENTRIES; ENTRY DEADLINE IS AUGUST 28, 2023. TEAMS MAY CONSIST OF 2-3 YOUTH OF THE SAME AGE CATEGORY. CONTESTANT AGE GROUPS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

JR DIVISION: 3RD - 7TH GRADE ~ SR DIVISION: 8TH - 12TH GRADE

TEAMS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH LULING FOUNDATION GROUND BEEF, A BBQ COOKER AND CHARCOAL (SEE RULES FOR FULL DETAILS). PRIZES FOR GRAND & RESERVE GRAND PER DIVISION.

ENTRY FORM:

DIVISION: (CHECK ONE →) JR _{3rd-7th} SR _{8th-12th}

TEAM NAME:

INDIVIDUAL TEAM MEMBER INFO:

NAME:	GRADE:	DOB:	AGE:

PRIMARY EMAIL FOR TEAM: _____

PRIMARY NAME & PHONE NUMBER: _____

MAILING/PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

This program is sponsored by tri-county coordination of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

**TEXAS A&M
 AGRILIFE
 EXTENSION**

*EACH REGISTERED TEAM MEMBER IS GRANTED A RAFFLE ENTRY FOR A MEGA-PRIZE DRAWING
 FIND US AT WWW.LULINGFOUNDATION.ORG OR [FACEBOOK.COM/LULINGFOUNDATION](https://www.facebook.com/lulingfoundation)
 523 S. MULBERRY, LULING, TX 78648 ~ (830) 875-2438 ~ FAX (830) 875-3138
 EMAIL: LULINGFOUNDATION@SBCGLOBAL.NET
 THE LULING FOUNDATION IS A 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION, EST. 1927 BY EDGAR B. DAVIS

YOUTH GRILL-OFF RULES, SCHEDULE & PERMISSION

The Youth Grill-Off is a state-wide team BBQ burger cook-off contest organized by cooperative efforts of the Luling Foundation and tri-county Texas A&M AgriLife Extension offices of Caldwell, Gonzales & Guadalupe County. The Youth Grill-Off will take place on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at the Luling Foundation Farm's (LFF) Demonstration Barn located at 523 S. Mulberry, Luling, Texas 78648. This contest is for youth ages 3rd through 12th grade consisting of 2-3 youth per team of the same age category. Contestant age group categories are as follows: JR Division: 3rd - 7th Grade, SR Division: 8th - 12th Grade. *Entry Fee will be \$20/Team (Non-Refundable) and will be open to the first 32 team entries. Entry deadline is August 28, 2023; entries received after places have been filled will be put on a waiting list. Teams will be provided with Luling Foundation ground Angus beef, an Old Smokey BBQ grill and charcoal (* *See itemized list below for complete list of what to bring and what will be provided). Teams will have 1 hour to cook a burger patty and will be judged on taste, appearance, quality and creativity (judges will only eat the BEEF). Details of official rules will be discussed at the Chef Meeting at 9 AM (See Schedule below). Designated adult volunteers will light each grill and oversee each team. Parents will not be allowed in the allotted competition area but will be able to view the event. Each team will have one pound of ground beef provided and they will make 2-4 burgers; one beef patty will be judged and the others are for the team and their family to enjoy. There will be a complimentary "Table of Fixins" Condiment Bar for participants and their families to build their own burgers for lunch. Each grill-off team be allowed to take the Old Smokey BBQ cooker home. For more information, call the Luling Foundation office - 830-875-2438.

SCHEDULE

8:30 AM CHECK-IN AT LFF DEMONSTRATION BARN

9:00 AM CHEF MEETING/ORIENTATION/EDUCATION

ROUND 1

→ 10:00 AM TO 11:00 AM

ROUND 2

→ 10:30 AM TO 11:30 AM

ROUND 3

→ 11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

JUDGING

→ 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

AWARDS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

****ITEMS PROVIDED BY ORGANIZERS:**

- BBQ PIT (OLD SMOKEY GRILL)
- CHARCOAL
- LIGHTER
- ONE POUND LULING FOUNDATION GROUND BEEF
- MEAT THERMOMETER
- SPRAY BOTTLE
- COOKING RESOURCES
- FIRST AID KIT
- PANTRY ITEMS (MYSTERY ITEMS TO ADD CREATIVITY/FLAVOR TO BURGER)
- CLAM SHELL FOR HAMBURGER PATTY ONLY

* Fully completed Entry Form, Signed Permission Page and payment must be made to secure a team spot and received by the entry deadline of 8/28/2023.

Entries/Payments can be delivered to:

The Luling Foundation

523 S. Mulberry

Luling, TX 78648

lulingfoundation@sbcglobal.net

Forms of Payment accepted:

Cash, Check, CashApp or Credit/Debit (3% fee)

****YOUTH NEED TO PROVIDE A SUPPLY BOX INCLUDING:**

- COOKING UTENSILS - SUCH AS TONGS, SPATULA, BRUSH, ETC.
- SPICES/BBQ RUB/SEASONINGS (NO EGGS ALLOWED)
- GLOVES
- HAND WIPES
- FOIL
- ADDITIONAL CHARCOAL, WOOD CHIPS, ETC. AFTER USING ALL SUPPLIED, IF NECESSARY

In signing this agreement, I grant permission for my child to participate and consent to the release of photographs for the youth grill-off:

TEAM MEMBER NAME:	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE:	DATE:

COME & TAKE IT PARADE

(Saturday, October 7th)

If you are planning to ride the 4-H float during the Come & Take It parade RSVP by Friday, Sept. 22nd. Child must be an approved 4-H member or Clover Kid prior by October 6th.



4-H T-Shirts are now available for purchase at the Extension office.
T-Shirts are \$22 each.



T-Shirts Design by:
4-H members Jaxon Beck (Front)
and Ellie Irving (Back)

4-H Food & Nutrition



Aug. 10, Friday	State Fair Entries due for Food Challenge Contest
Aug. 28, Monday	Grill Off Entries are due to the Luling Foundation
Aug. 31, Thursday	Food Challenge Practice - Pace Bldg 4-6 p.m. (Coaches need to attend.)
Sept. 5, Tuesday	4-H Grilling 101 from 4-6 p.m. at the Pace Building
Sept. 9, Saturday	Grill-Off at the Luling Foundation
Sept. 26, Tuesday	4-H Food & Nutrition Training 4-6 p.m. at the Pace Building
Oct. 2, Monday	4-H Food Challenge Competition at the State Fair
Oct. 7, Saturday	4-H Food Challenge Contest at HOT - Waco
Oct. 11, Wednesday	Entries Due for the Gonzales County Contest
Oct. 15, Sunday	Food Challenge Contest at the Guadalupe Fair
Oct. 21, Saturday	County Food Show/Food Challenge Contest – Pace Building (This is a qualifying contest for the District Contest! The top 2 teams in each age division will advance.)
Nov. 7, Tuesday	4-H Food & Nutrition Training 4-6 p.m. at the Pace Building
Nov. 29, Wednesday	D10 Food Show Contest at Fall Roundup in Kerrville
Nov. 30, Thursday	D10 Food Challenge Contest at Fall Roundup in Kerrville



4-H Workshop Consumer Decision Making

August 10th
at 10 am

@ the Pace Building.

Teams are forming for the Fall Contest.





Event Reimbursement Information

4-H County Council covers if funds are available and Council votes to adopt this 4-H year.

- Half camp fees to the 4-H Conference Center in Brownwood or Leadership based camps hosted by Texas 4-H.
- Half entry fees for participation in a 4-H hosted workshop or state round-up workshop (s)
- ALL entry fees for District 10 and/or State 4-H level contests hosted by the Texas 4-H Staff
- ALL entry fees for 4-H team-based contests

Contact office if this may apply to you. Members are held accountable by submitting a 4-H Payment Request Form and provide receipt of event attended to the council within 60 days of the event attended.

Members will be notified once paperwork has been reviewed. Contact office for further information. Paperwork can be picked up at the office or found online at gonzales.agrilife.org.

Note: Subject to change after County Council Meeting on
September 19th.



2023 - 2024 Limited Financial Aid Information

Gonzales County 4-H Adult Leaders are available to provide limited financial aid for members who have attended workshops, camps, or clinics that enhances his/her 4-H project. Financial aid is also available for those who have represented Gonzales County at the district, state, or national levels in other events. Members are held accountable by submitting the limited financial assistance request form and provide receipts (s) of event attended to the adult leaders within 60 days of the event attended. Late forms will not be accepted. Paperwork can be picked up at the office or found online at gonzales.agrilife.org under the 4-H tab.



A Year's View of 4-H

Dates and times are subject to change, please contact your club manager or the Extension Office for more details. Not everything is listed, please attend your club meetings to hear about upcoming events.

Augusts 2023

Be sure to register on 4-H Online!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
10 th	Consumer Decision Making
15 th	4-H Online Registration for 4 th -12 th grades begins
19 th	District 10 4-H Mega Meeting in Comfort

September 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
1 st	4-H Online Registration for 3 rd grade begins
5 th	Grilling Training w/ coaches & teams
9 th	Grill Off
19 th	County Council /Adult Leaders Meeting @ 6:00 pm at the Extension Office & Training "How to Interview".
26 th	Food & Nutrition with coaches & teams
28 th	Consumer Decision Practice 4-6 pm
29 th - Oct. 22 nd	State Fair in Dallas

October 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
1 st - 7 th	Tractor Supply Paper Clover sale, please stop by for an hour or so.
2 nd	State Fair – Food Challenge
3 rd	National Night Out
5 th	State Fair - Agrobotics
7 th	One Day 4-H
7 th	Come and Take it Parade
12 th	Consumer Decision Making Practice 4-6 pm
14 th	Consumer Decision Guadalupe County Contest
15 th	Food Challenge Guadalupe County Contest
17 th	Gonzales County Youth Show Association (GCYSA) Lamb and Goat Validation 5-6 pm at JB Wells Park
19 th	Halter Heifer Validation 5-6pm at Pecan Grove Vet. Clinic
21 st	County Food Show/ Food Challenge Competition
Sept. 29 th - Oct. 22 nd	State Fair in Dallas Calf Scramble Entries are due



A Year's View of 4-H

(Continued page 2)

November 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
6 th	Deadline for District Round-Up registration
6 th	Fort Worth Major Entries are due
15 th	Sand Hills – Odessa Entries are due
1 st	Major Show entries are due- San Angelo, San Antonio, Houston, and Austin
21 st	Poinsettia Sale presales due
28 th	County Council /Adult Leaders Meeting @ 6:00 pm at the Extension Office
28 th -30 th	GCYSA Swine Validation 5-6 pm at JB Wells Park
	D10 Fall Roundup Registration (Food show, Food Challenge, Educational Presentations, Public Speaking)

December 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
1 st	Poinsettia Sale
3 rd & 10 th	Commercial Heifer validation for GCYSA – 1-2 pm Guadalupe Valley Vet Clinic
	Major Swine validation
8 th	Deadline for ordering broilers for GCYSA

January 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
14 th – Feb. 4 ^h	Ft. Worth Stock Show
15 th	County Council /Adult Leaders Meeting @ 6:00 pm at the Extension Office
16 th	GCYSA Rabbit Validation 5-7 pm at JB Wells Park
17 th Tentative	Gonzales Youth Show and Nixon Smiley Livestock Show Broiler pick up
3 rd -6 th	Sand Hills Stock Show

February 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
	Waelder Stock Show
	Nixon-Smiley Livestock Show Rabbit Validation
Jan. 14 th - Feb. 4 th	Ft. Worth Stock Show
6 th -25 th	San Antonio Livestock Show
1 st -18 th	San Angelo Stock Show
27-March 17 th	Houston Stock Show

A Year's View of 4-H

(Continued page 2)



March 2024

Date

Feb. 29-March 2nd
8th-9th
Feb. 27- March 17th
8th-23rd

Event

Gonzales County Youth Show
Nixon Smiley Livestock Show
Houston Livestock Show
Rodeo Austin Stock Show
County Council /Adult Leaders Meeting @ 6:00 pm at the Extension Office
Gonzales County qualifying contest to participate in the D10 Spring
Roundup contest (Duds to Dazzle, Fashion Show, Share the fun).

April 2024

Date

Event

Horse Validation
D10 Spring Roundup

May 2024

Date

21st

Event

4-H Adult Leaders Fundraiser
County Council /Adult Leaders Meeting @ 6:00 pm at the Extension
Office - OFFICER ELECTIONS

June 2024

Date

3rd-6th

Event

State Round-Up in College Station
District Horse Show in Dripping Springs
Record books, Senior Scholarships and award applications are due
Leadership Lab

July 2024

Date

Event

Banquet

For DISTRICT EVENTS click below:

<https://d104-h.tamu.edu/district-events-activities/>

Gonzales County 4-H Clubs

1709 E. Sarah DeWitt Dr.
Unit A

Gonzales, TX 78629

Email: gonzales-tx@tamu.edu

Office: 830.672.8531