SEPTEMBER

2023-2024 Gonzales County 4-H Newsletter







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



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!

Encourage your friends to join 4-H. Watch us Grow!



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Special points of interest.

- County 4-H Council Meeting
- How to Interview Workshop
- 4-H Online Registration
- Validation Dates
- Volunteers Wanted





Welcome to the new 4-H Year!

I am Addyson Kardosz and I am so excited to start this year as your Gonzales County Council President. I enjoy being a 4-H Health Ambassador and promoting 4-H every chance I get. I have been a member of the Gonzales County 4-H for eight years! Please help me promote 4-H and invite your friends to join 4-H. Everyone is invited to the first 4-H County Council Meeting at 6 p.m., September 19, 2023. During the meeting, we will discuss our parade float at the Come and Take It Celebration. If you have any ideas to grow 4-H in our county, please call me at 1-830-857-3541. I am looking forward to a great year in 4-H.

Addyson Kardosz

2023-20234 Gonzales County 4-H Council Officers

President – Addyson Kardosz

Vice President – Audrey Thibodeaux

Secretary – Ellie Irving

Treasurer – Jaxon Beck

Reporter – Kayden Cheatham

Parliamentarian – Jayden Cheatham

District Council Delegates – Addyson Kardosz,

Augustus Sexton and Ellie Irving



County 4-H Council & Adult Leader

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.





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.agrillife.org/)
 Enrollment instructions vary by county, so check with your local county office for more information.
- FIND A GLUB
 4-H Clubs are groups of youth and volunteers who meet on a regular basis.
- FIND A PROJECT
 Learn about topics that interest you. These are referred to as members projects.
- ENROLL IN TEXAS 4-H
 Signup on 4HOnline after you have found a club and project that is right for you!

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

ABOUT 4HONLINE

- 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

- 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.





FAMILY ENROLLMENT TIPS Texas. Ahonfing.com

NEW FAMILY

1 2		3 4			
Select to set up a profile	Start adding members. Enter one member	Review Fees	YOUTH	Adult	
Setup only one family profile per household.	profile at a time. The Next button will take you through each screen.	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.	hecked often. Questions screen. Youth Rirthdate and school grade		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 appproved 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		
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.	YOUTH Review Enrollment and fees. Click Back to make corrections. Click Submit.	Adult 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 appproved 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.



Quality Counts FAQ - Students/Parents

Registration/Access

- How do I access the new Quality Counts system?
 - The new Quality Counts program can be found at: https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/s/product/quality-counts/01t4x000002ciQSAAY

Helpful Hint: Follow the Enrollment Instructions!

- Can I use the same email address as my sibling to take Quality Counts?
 - c No, each individual exhibitor must have their own email address to use for registration.
- I took Quality Counts previously (last year, for example). Do I have to take it again?
 - If you are planning to show at Spring major livestock shows (or other county/local shows that indicate), Quality Counts verification is required.

Helpful Hint: Exhibitors must be verified once as a junior (grades 3-5), once as an intermediate (grades 6-8) and once as a senior (grades 9-12).

- I will probably only show through 4-H (or FFA), but I am also a member of the other organization, which should I select?
 - Select both 4-H and FFA, as applicable. It is best to have both selected just in case! Keep in mind, 4-H affiliation is by county, not individual clubs.

Quality Counts Verification

- Which shows require Quality Counts verification?
 - Verification on the Quality Counts system is required for all major livestock show entries.
 Additionally, county and local shows may require Quality Counts numbers. Please refer to each show's rules to determine if Quality Counts verification is required for show or contest participation.
- I did not get a certificate to print when I finished Quality Counts. How do I prove I am verified?
 - Quality Counts no longer provides a certificate to print. You received an email confirmation from <u>texasyouthlivestock@ag.tamu.edu</u> upon your completion. This can be kept for your records to confirm verification.
- I did not receive the confirmation email. What do I do?
 - The emails are automatic and cannot be resent. Please check your spam folders. You may contact your County Extension Agent or Ag Science Teacher for the number if you did not receive the email

4-H Members participating in any stock show must complete Quality Counts.

Please read stock show rules for deadlines to have this completed.

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.

Nitrogen Tank

Gonzales County 4-H owns a liquid nitrogen tank to store bull semen for any 4-H member to use for their beef projects. This tank is available for check-out at the AgriLife Extension Office.

Rural Youth Loans... the Farm Service Agency has a program that provides loans to youth for purchasing income producing livestock to improve and/or begin their operation. Information on this program is available at the Gonzales FSA Office, 830-672-7511.

<u>Gonzales County Youth Show</u> <u>Sheep, Goat, and Halter Heifer Exhibitors</u>

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/ under the tab Major Texas Livestock Shows & Local Shows.





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 <u>October 17th</u>. In order for this to occur, you must call the AgriLife Extension office 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 dead-line 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 19**th, 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 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.



If your child is interested in being part of the team come to practice.

Practice Dates:

September 11, 2023 September 18, 2023 September 25, 2023 October 2, 2023 October 16, 2023

4:30 pm @ the Extension office

Contact: Dwight Sexton 830.672.8531



4-H Open House

Come see what all the excitement is about!



September 14, 2023 at the PACE Building (623 N. Fair Street) 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

AG and FCH agents will be available to answer questions on livestock shows, contest, validation, quality counts and the following 4-H projects.



Livestock: Ambassador Judging <u>Calf Sc</u>ramble



Robotics

Dog Project



Citizenship



Health Ambassador



Educational Presentation



Consumer
Decision Making



Food & Nutrition and Food Challenge



Horse Project



Shooting Sports



Photography



WANTED VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED FOR



- Ed. Presentations
- Food Show
- Food Challenge
- Duds to Dazzle
- Photography
- Quiz Bowl
- Fashion Show
- Consumer Decision
 Making

Be a 4-H Champion!

Volunteers are the heartbeat of change, breathing life into dreams and transforming youth and communities.

CONTACT:

Gayle Bludau: FCH & 4-H Coordinator Agent 830.672.8531

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. 22^{nd} . Child must be an approved 4-H member or Clover Kid prior by October 6^{th} .



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



Gonzales County 4-H Shooting Sports

Please call the Extension Office 830.672.8531

if you are interested in being in the Gonzales 4-H Shooting Sports.

4-Her will have access to the 4-H Shooting Sports guns in inventory. No need to purchase gun/s.





The Gonzales County Farm Bureau Board of Directors donated \$5,000 in stock show donations to Gonzales County Farm Bureau member's children who participated in Stock shows in Gonzales County in 2023.

This is a new program started and they would like to keep going. You are invited to join the Gonzales County Farm Bureau, memberships are \$40.00, which is an annual fee, to take advantage of this new program and many other great benefits offered to Farm Bureau members.

To join you can go online to: <u>WWW.TEXASFARMBUREAU.ORG</u> or call our local office at 830-672-7518.

They are located at 1731 Seydler St and would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Please be sure to join by October 31st to be eligible.



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.

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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.

Note: 4-H parents & 4-H volunteers who have approved registration enrollment in 4-H are invited to join the Adult Leaders administrative club. Club meets every other 3rd Tuesday same time as the Gonzales County 4-H Council at the Extension office. Meetings start at 6 pm unless otherwise communicated. Information of upcoming meetings are in the 4-H newsletters.

Bucket Calf Program



All meetings to be held at the Gonzales High School Ag Building on Seydler St.

- Planning Meeting for Mentors Only:
 October 10, 2024
- Monday, October 16, 2023 at 5:30 pm
- Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 5:30 pm
 - Tuesday, January 15, 2024 at 5:30 pm
- Practice Show: February 25, 2024 at 3:00 pm at JB Wells Arena

Click on link to access 2023-2024 Bucket Calf Meeting Schedule -

https://gonzales.agrilife.org/files/2023/08/2023-2024-Meeting-Schedule-Copy.pdf

Click on link to access 2023-2024 Bucket Calf Mentee Rules and Requirements -

https://gonzales.agrilife.org/files/2023/08/2023-2024-Mentee-Rules-and-Requirements-Copy.pdf

Click on link to access 2023-2024 Bucket Calf Mentor Rules and Requirements -

https://gonzales.agrilife.org/files/2023/08/2023-2024-Mentor-Rules-and-Requirements-Copy.pdf

Click on link to access 2023-2024 Bucket Calf Record Log -



2023 SEPTEMBER 4-H EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					4-H Online Registration for 3rd graders starts!	2
3	Office closed in observance of Labor Day.	Grilling Training w/coaches & Teams 4-6 pm @ PACE Bldg.!	6 Educational Presentation Workshop 3-5 pm @ Ext. Office	7	8	9 Grilling Off @ Luling Foundation! *Livestock Judging Contest in Columbus!
10	Livestock Judging Practice 4:30 pm @ Extension Office	12	13	14 4-H Open House 4-5:30 pm @ PACE	15	16
17	Livestock Judging Practice 4:30 pm @ Extension Office	19 Co. Council & Adult Leaders Meetings 6pm @ Extension Office!	20	21	22	23
24	Livestock Judging Practice 4:30 pm @ Extension Office		27	Consumer Decision Making Practice 4-6 pm @ PACE Bldg.!		30 R Of TEXAS rts!

4-H MEMBERS ARE

AWESOME!



2023

OCTOBER

4-H EVENTS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Tractor Supply Paper Clover sale!	2 State Fair- Food Challenge! Tractor Supply Paper Clover sale!	National Night Out! Tractor Supply Paper Clover sale!	4 Tractor Supply Paper Clover sale!	State Fair- Agrobotics! Tractor Supply Paper Clover sale!	6 Office Closed - Come & Take It festivities. Tractor Supply Paper Clover sale!	7 Come & Take It Parade! One Day 4-H! Tractor Supply Paper Clover sale!
8	Office closed in observance of Columbus Day.	10	11	Consumer Decision Making Practice 4-6 pm @ PACE Bldg.!	13	Consumer Decision Making Contest in Guadalupe Co.!
15 Food Challenge Contest in Guadalupe Co.!	16 Livestock Judging Practice 4:30 pm @ Extension Office	Validation 5-6 pm	18	Halter Heifer Validation 5-6 pm @ Pecan Grove Vet. Clinic	20	21 County Food Show/Food Challenge Competition!
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER SAVE THE DATES

6TH FORT WORTH MAJOR ENTRIES ARE DUE

6TH SAND HILLS - ODESSA ENTRIES ARE DUE

9TH POINSETTIA PRESALE ORDERS DUE *NOTE: DATE UPDATED

15TH MAJOR SHOW ENTRIES ARE DUE- SAN ANGELO, SAN ANTONIO, HOUSTON, AND AUSTIN 21ST COUNTY COUNCIL /ADULT LEADERS MEETING @ 6:00 PM AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE 28TH GCYSA SWINE VALIDATION 5-6 PM AT JB WELLS PARK

28TH - 30TH D10 FALL ROUNDUP REGISTRATION (FOOD SHOW, FOOD CHALLENGE, EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC SPEAKING)