

Gregg County Extension  
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# Gregg County 4-H Focus

December 2011



## Gregg County 4-H Christmas Party

You and your family are invited to the  
Gregg County 4-H Christmas Party  
**Friday, December 9th**  
**at 6:30 p.m.**  
at the Gregg County Extension Auditorium.

You don't want to miss this annual event so bundle up, bring your holiday cheer and meet us for a night of fun and games & food!

**We need your help with refreshments for the Christmas party. We are asking 4-H members to bring the following:**

If your last name begins with the letter **A-I**, please bring cookies, brownies, etc.

If your last name begins with the letter **K-P**, please bring sandwiches, pigs-in-a-blanket, tortilla rollups or BBQ cocktail smokies, etc.

If your last name begins with the letter **Q-Z**, please bring chips and dips.

**Thanks for helping make our party a success!**

### *Community Service Canned Food Drive*

We will have a **Community Service Project** in conjunction with our County 4-H Christmas Party. You are asked to bring canned goods and non-perishable food items to the Christmas party to donate to the Highway 80 Rescue Mission. Please take part in this Community Service project to help our neighbors in need.

Some suggested items are :

***Canned meats, peanut butter, canned vegetables & soups, macaroni and cheese, rice, pasta, cereal, and etc.***

You may bring your items to the County 4-H Christmas party on **December 9, 2011**. Please do your part to help our neighbors to have a happier holiday season. If you won't be able to attend the Christmas party, you are welcome to bring your food donations to the Extension office during the day on Thursday, December 8th or on Friday, December 9th.

***If you are a 4-H Ambassador or County Council member, please remember to attend the meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 5:15 p.m. to plan for the County 4-H Christmas Party.***

# Attention: High School Seniors...Scholarship Information

## 2012 Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship



If you haven't already started, now is the time to begin working toward scholarship application requirements.

The Texas 4-H Foundation scholarship applications will be due on **February 1, 2012** to the Gregg County Extension Office, so...now is the time to get started on your scholarship application so that you are not working on it "at the last minute". Last minute preparations are not sufficient in order to achieve an outstanding scholarship application! **The 2012 Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship Application is available on the Texas 4-H website which is <http://texas4-H.tamu.edu/youth/scholarship>. So **NOW** is the time for graduating senior 4-H members to begin preparing to complete the scholarship application.**

**IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT!** The Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship application process now requires the "FAFSA" (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to be included with the scholarship application. **High School seniors should start immediately with either the on-line or paper process.** It takes approximately 4 weeks to receive your report from FAFSA **that must be included in your application** that is due by February 1, 2012. The website for the FAFSA is [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

### Minimum Requirements for the Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship

#### **For Baccalaureate Scholarships**

- Minimum SAT score of 1350 and/or minimum ACT score of 19 (Test Scores must be from a single date-no combining of scores from different test dates).
- Completed and passed all necessary standardized test(s) for graduation and admittance to the college and/or university declared in the scholarship application.
- Have been accepted into a Texas college or university by the time of scholarship awarding.

#### **For Technical Scholarships**

- Completed and passed all necessary standardized test(s) for graduation and admittance to the college and/or university declared in the scholarship application.
- Have been accepted into a Texas college or university by the time of scholarship awarding.
- DO NOT have plans to continue formal education at a Texas college and/or university after the completion of a technical program.

### **2012 Geico Safety Belt Poster & Video Contest**

Geico Insurance Company is sponsoring a national contest for students ages 6-18 (as of September 1, 2011) to create a message encouraging young people to buckle up.

There are three ways to win. Students can create a hand-drawn poster, a computer generated poster or produce a short video. Go to: [www.geicosafetycontest.com](http://www.geicosafetycontest.com) for the complete rules. All posters, videos and computer generated art are to be postmarked by January 6, 2012.

### **Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Rabbit Entry Deadlines**



The deadline to submit entries to the *Houston Livestock Show* for the meat pen rabbit division is **December 15, 2011**. The deadline to submit entries to the *Houston Livestock Show* for the breeding rabbit division is **February 1, 2012**. Keep in mind that meat pen rabbits entered in the Houston Livestock Show will have to be tattooed by a HLS&R committee member. For more details visit the Houston Livestock Show Homepage under exhibitor's handbook @ [www.hlsr.com](http://www.hlsr.com).

# Houston Go Texan Scholarships

Information will soon be available at the Gregg County Extension Office for the HOUSTON GO TEXAN SCHOLARSHIP. If interested, please call the Extension Office. Applications will also be available from the HLSR website at [www.rodeohouston.com](http://www.rodeohouston.com). Applications must be submitted both online and by mail to the HOUSTON LIVESTOCK SHOW & RODEO by January 15, 2012. Graduating public high school students are eligible to apply. Required for eligibility is a minimum SAT score of 1350 and/or a minimum ACT score of 19.



## District Food Show Poster Contest

The theme for the 2012 poster contest is *"Health Food Fast: Create a Well Balanced Meal Deal"*. Five places will be awarded in each age division. No entry fee or pre-registration is required for this contest!

*This contest is not open to Clover Kids.*

**Participants in the poster contest do not have to be entered in the Food Show nor be present to win!**

There is no limit to the number of posters that each county can enter; however, each child is limited to one poster. The poster must be on a poster board that measures 28"x22". NO FOAM BOARD OR OTHER MATERIALS PLEASE. The posters will be judged on creativity and the nutritional message that the poster conveys. This contest is open to all age divisions, except Clover Kids. Ribbons will be given to the top five places in each age division as appropriate.

The following information must be included on the back of each poster:

**Contestant Name:**

**County:**

**Age Division:**



The deadline to bring your poster to the Extension Office is: Monday, February 6, 2012.

## 4-H Stage Design Contest

If you are interested in the 4-H Stage Design Contest, Please contact the Gregg County Extension Office for application information on or before January 17, 2012. Only senior 4-H members are eligible to apply. (Ages 14-18 as of August 31, 2011.)

Texas  
**4-H & YOUTH**



## **Beekeeping Essay Contest**



The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees is sponsoring an essay contest on the topic of: ***"The Results of Honey Bee Pollination in My Community"***

***This year, entries can only be submitted electronically. Entries should be submitted to [Kjmerten@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Kjmerten@ag.tamu.edu).***

Entries must reach College Station before **January 13, 2012**. Contest details and guidelines can be requested from the county extension office. The contest winners will receive monetary awards.

## **Texas 4-H Teen Retreat**

The Texas 4-H Teen Retreat will be held January 6-8, 2012 at the Texas 4-H Conference Center in Brownwood. This Retreat is for 4-H'ers ages 13-19.

The cost is \$105.00 per youth and \$70.00 per adult. Registration will be conducted on 4-H Connect and the registration period began on November 1st and ends on December 30th. Adult chaperones must accompany the 4-H members to the Retreat.

## **DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST**

The 2012 District Photography Contest entries will be showcased at District 4-H Roundup on April 28, 2012. **All entry registrations must be submitted on 4-H Connect and the photos must be emailed in the specified format to [d54h@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:d54h@ag.tamu.edu).** Entry fees for the District Contest are \$6.00 per person plus .50 cents per photo. The deadline to enter will be February 14, 2012.

The rules for the contest will be posted on the District 4-H website.  
<http://d54-h.tamu.edu>.

A 4-H member may have one entry in each category for a total of 15 entries. Black & white pictures and color pictures will be judged together and the categories are:

people  
marine-aquatic  
plant/flora  
night photography  
catch-all

animals-wildlife  
elements of design  
details & macro  
food  
Theme: "Trains"

animals-domestic  
nature & landscape  
digital darkroom  
dominant color  
storyboard





## 2012 TEXAS 4-H ROUNDUP WILL TAKE PLACE IN LUBBOCK ON THE CAMPUS OF TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY.

### CHANGES FOR 2012:

- The following educational presentations will be discontinued from Texas 4-H Roundup starting September 1, 2011:  
Agronomy, Consumer Life Skills, Farm and Ranch Economics, Food and Nutrition, Horticulture, Housing and Home Environment, Meat Science, and Shooting Sport.
- The following educational presentations will replace those listed above:  
Open- Agriculture and Natural Resources and  
Open – Family and Consumer Sciences
- Swine Skill-a-Thon will be changed to an invitational style contest.
- Invitational Swine Quiz Bowl will be open to intermediates and seniors.
- Invitational Meats Contest will be hosted on Thursday June 14, 2012 for intermediate and seniors not participating in the qualifying Meat Judging and Identification Contest.
- 4-H members winning first place in a Fashion Storyboard category may participate in a different category the following year.
- Modifications have been made to the Livestock Sweepstakes and Healthy Lifestyles Sweepstakes.
- The winner of the public speaking contest will give their speech at the Thursday night assembly.

# ***NEW***

### **NEW!!! Online 4-H Recordbook System!!!**

Basic instructions and the Instruction Guide for the new 4-H Recordbook System can be found at:  
**[4hreports.com](http://4hreports.com)**.

Highlights of the new 4-H recordbook include:

- ◆ Different forms for each age group based on age appropriateness (Junior, Intermediate, Senior - progressive in nature)
- ◆ Added goal setting section for Junior & Intermediates
- ◆ No more recordbook objectives
- ◆ No more resume for Seniors
- ◆ Added Career Exploration section for Seniors

With the new 4-H recordbook, it is important that 4-H members begin working on the recordbook **NOW!** 4-H members should be making and inputting project goals for the current 4-H year. You should also be taking pictures of project work and activities. Also, be sure to keep a journal of your project activities and note what was learned through the project experiences.

## County 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest Results

**Way to  
Go!**

Congratulations to all of the 4-H members who competed in the County 4-H Consumer Decision Making contest! This contest requires much effort in critical thinking and decision making and the 4-H members who competed are to be applauded for their outstanding efforts in this contest!

4-H members who competed in the contest and qualified to advance to the District 4-H Contest are as follows:

### Junior Division

*Madelyn McGregor - 1st high point individual*  
*Nathaniel Topp - 2nd high point individual*  
*Kristin Klerekoper - 3rd high point individual*

### Intermediate Division

*Natasha Watts - 1st high point individual*  
*Christin Nelson - 2nd high point individual*  
*Elizabeth Nelson - 3rd high point individual*  
*James Watts - 4th high point individual*

### Senior Division

*Hannah Watts - 1st high point individual*  
*Paul Daniel - 2nd high point individual*

**Way To Go!**



*Also, competing in the County 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest were:  
Josiah Topp, Catherine Nelson, and Jacob Topp.*

*All of the 4-H members listed above have qualified to  
advance to the District Contest! Congratulations!!*

*\*\*\*Many thanks to the following 4-H parents who helped with the contest by serving as  
group leaders! Thank you to Mr. Fred Klerekoper, Mr. Jason McGregor,  
Mr. Randy Nelson and Mr. Ken Topp.\*\*\**

# County 4-H Food Show

*Congratulations to all Gregg County 4-H members who  
competed in the County 4-H Food Show!!*

## Juniors

**Amy Odum** - Main Dish, 1st Place, Blue Ribbon  
**Christian Floyd** - Main Dish, Alternate, Red Ribbon  
**Jaiden Hamilton** - Bread & Cereals, 1st Place, White Ribbon  
**Madelyn McGregor** - Fruit & Vegetable, 1st Place, Blue Ribbon  
**Katherine Belle Florence** - Fruit & Vegetable, Alternate, Red Ribbon  
**Burkleigh Boyd** - Nutritious Snacks, 1st Place, Blue Ribbon

## Intermediates

**Victoria Florence** - Main Dish, 1st Place, Blue Ribbon  
**Jakiron Jones** - Main Dish, Alternate, Blue Ribbon  
**Joe Peery** - Main Dish, Blue Ribbon  
**Braiden Stice** - Fruit & Vegetable, 1st Place, Blue Ribbon  
**Elizabeth Nelson** - Fruit & Vegetable, Alternate, Blue Ribbon  
**Gwen Graves** - Bread & Cereal, 1st Place, Blue Ribbon  
**James Watts** - Bread & Cereal, Alternate, Blue Ribbon  
**Joshua Florence** - Bread & Cereal, Red Ribbon  
**Christin Nelson** - Bread & Cereal, Blue Ribbon  
**Staley Stice** - Nutritious Snacks, 1st Place, Blue Ribbon  
**Natasha Watts** - Nutritious Snacks, Alternate, Blue Ribbon  
**Catherine Nelson** - Nutritious Snacks, Red Ribbon

## Seniors

**Xavier Pippins** - Main Dish, 1st Place, Red Ribbon

## Clover Kids

\*\*\*\*\***Sasha Graves, Delayna Hold, Seth McGregor  
and Kalecia Sheffield\*\*\*\***



# CONGRATULATIONS

## HARVEST FESTIVAL RESULTS

Congratulations to Gregg County 4-H'ers!!!!

Congratulations to **Cheyenne Swoope** for making the sale with her Market Lamb.

Also competing in the Harvest Festival and Livestock Show was **Jacob Duncan** in the Beef Heifer Division and the Market Goat Division; **Kayden Perry** in the Market Lamb Division; **Wade Fell, Dillon Gibson, Austin Gibson, Allison Johnson, and Kayden Perry** in the Swine Division.

Congratulations to **Braiden Stice** for winning the Sweepstakes Award in the Home Economics Show!!

Congratulations to:

**Natasha Watts** for Best of Show in the Handcrafts Division

**Daniel Klerekoper** for Best of Show in the Poetry Division

**Hunter Gibson** for Best of Show in the Clover Kids Poster Contest

**Kristin Klerekoper** for Best of Show in the Pumpkin Carving Contest

Also, congratulations to:

**Sarah Klerekoper** for Most Original Pumpkin

**Kristin Klerekoper** for Most Creative Pumpkin

**Elizabeth Nelson** for Funniest Pumpkin

**Joshua Florence** for Smallest Pumpkin

**Katherine Belle Florence** for Most Bizarre

**Catherine Nelson** for Out of This World Pumpkin

Also competing in the Ag Mechanics Division was **Kegan DeShazer** and **Grayson DeShazer**.



**DASH FOR CASH WINTER CLASSIC - December 10, 2011 - Henderson County Fairpark Complex**

Competition includes: Heifers, Steers, Market Goats & Market Lambs. Entry fee is \$25.00 for cattle & \$20.00 for goats & lambs.

**DASH FOR CASH BEEF, GOAT, & LAMB WORKSHOP - December 9, 2011 - Henderson County Fairpark Complex**

\$6.00 fee per person to be paid at the door. Check-in is 5-6 p.m. RSVP deadline is December 6th.  
Presenters include: Ronald Blum - Beef Clinic and Michael Hunter - Goat & Lamb Clinic

Topics covered include showmanship, feeding, fitting, nutrition and show preparation. Dinner will be served.

\*\* Bring your animal projects. Stalls and pens will be available.\*\*\*

**Don't Forget... To Express Your Appreciation...**



Don't forget to thank the buyer of your Harvest Festival project...if you sold a project in the Harvest Festival Sale, be sure to write a thank you note to the buyer. If you do not know the name and/or address of your buyer, you can call the Extension Office. In order to receive your check, you must bring a copy of your thank you note to the Gregg County Extension Office where your name will be checked off. This is very important! The people who donate their money need to be thanked. If you do not show your appreciation, the donors may discontinue their support. So be sure to thank your buyers **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**. Keep in mind that checks will not be available until sometime around mid December. We will notify you when the checks are available to be picked up.

**Thank you to all 4-H'ers who participated in the Thanksgiving Food Drive on November 21st and 22nd at the Maude Cobb Convention Center. Your community service is appreciated.**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**


Charlotte Hold  
Interim 4-H Coordinator  
Gregg County





# DECEMBER 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 <i>4-H Christmas Party Planning meeting, 5:15 p.m.</i>	7	8	9 <i>4-H Christmas Social, 6:30 p.m.</i>	10
11	12 <i>Shamrocks 4-H Club meeting, 2:00 p.m.  Spring Hill 4-h Club meeting, 4:30 p.m.</i>	13 <i>Sabine 4-H Club meeting, 7:00 p.m.  Happy Hearts 4-H Club meeting, 6:30 p.m.</i>	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 <i>Office Closed</i>	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>
25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26 <i>Office Closed</i> 	27	28	29	30	31