

# Brazos County 4-H 2011-2012 Family Handbook

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*Improving Lives. Improving Texas.*

## WELCOME TO THE BRAZOS COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM!

We are glad that you have chosen to be part of the largest non-formal youth education organization in the United States! Over 5.6 million youth participate in 4-H each year to become self-motivated, productive and contributing citizens.

4-H is designed to be a family affair, so 4-H parents are encouraged to get involved in the 4-H experience. Ways that 4-H parents can contribute range from serving as a project leader to providing transportation to activities, or even supplying refreshments for meetings or special events. 4-H parents are also needed to supervise 4-H activities.

Brazos County has an outstanding group of dedicated adult volunteer leaders as well as a superb group of motivated 4-H members. We welcome your family into our Brazos County 4-H family!

Please read through your Brazos County 4-H Handbook to answer any questions you may have about the 4-H program. This handbook is designed as a reference tool for you throughout the 4-H year. Please refer to the 4-H Newsletter as you set your goals for participation in 4-H events and contests.

Best wishes for a fulfilling year in 4-H! We look forward to seeing you at events throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Brandon S. Gregson  
County Extension Agent  
4-H and Youth Development  
Brazos County

**Texas AgriLife Extension Service**  
**Brazos County**  
2619 Highway 21 West  
Bryan, Texas 77803  
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Fax. 979.775.3746  
brazos-tx@tamu.edu  
<http://brazos.agrilife.org/>

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, 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 assistance in order to participate are encouraged to contact our office at 979-823-0129.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Welcome to 4-H.....	1
Table of Contents and Extension Office Contacts .....	2
4-H Pledge, Motto and Who Can Participate?.....	3
Adult Leaders Association .....	3
4-H Council and Ten Easy Steps to Getting the Most of 4-H .....	4
Participation Fee.....	5
Enrolling.....	6
Get Involved and Brazos County Extension Website.....	7
Brazos County 4-H Clubs .....	8-10
Brazos County 4-H Club Officers .....	11
4-H Projects and Brazos County 4-H Livestock Projects Important Dates.....	12
Complete a Project and Awards and Recognition.....	13
4-H Activities in Brazos County, BCYLS and Eligibility.....	14
Keeping Records-Record Books .....	15
Sharing and Promote and Community Service.....	15
Brazos County 4-H Eligibility Form and Instructions .....	16-17

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## **Office Location/Mailing Address**

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Fax: (979) 775-3768

**WEBSITE:** <http://brazos.agrilife.org/>  
**FACEBOOK PAGE:** [facebook.com/brazos4h](https://www.facebook.com/brazos4h)

# About 4-H

## **Motto**

“To Make the Best Better”

## **Emblem**

The 4-H emblem is the four-leaf clover with the letter “H” on each leaf, standing for head, heart, hands and health. The 4-H Clover and name are protected under 18U.S.C. 707. Permission is required to duplicate it.

## **Colors**

The 4-H colors are green and white. Green symbolizes nature’s most common color and represents life, springtime and youth. White symbolizes purity.

## **Pledge**

I pledge  
My head to clearer thinking,  
My heart to greater loyalty,  
My hands to larger service and  
My health to better living,  
for my club, my community,  
my country and my world.



## **4-H Year**

September 1 to August 31

## **Age of 4-H Members**

1. Any youth may become a member of 4-H when he or she has reached 9 years of age, or 8 years of age and has entered the third grade. “Entered the third grade” is interpreted as September 1 of the year the member is enrolled in the third grade.
2. Youth are eligible to participate in the current 4-H year if they are 8 (and in the third grade) or 9 years of age by August 31 of the previous 4-H year and have not reached their 19th birthday on or before August 31 of the current 4-H year.

## **Texas 4-H Age Categories for project activity purposes are:**

**Junior = 8 and in the 3rd grade, 9 & 10 as of August 31**

**Intermediate = 11, 12, 13 as of August 31**

**Senior = 14-18 as of August 31**

## **Adult Leaders Association**

All 4-H parents and leaders are encouraged to become part of the Adult Leaders Association!

This association is composed of volunteer 4-H leaders who meet and work together to support the 4-H youth of Brazos County. The Adult Leaders Association works in conjunction with the County 4-H Council to plan and coordinate county-wide 4-H activities. The Adult Leaders Association works to financially assist the 4-H youth through fund raising projects. The Association is also useful as a meeting forum in which leaders may exchange ideas.

President.....	Lisa Mutchler
Vice President.....	Brett Scott
Secretary.....	Charity Judah
Treasurer.....	Walter Campbell
Delegates at Large.....	Beth Lawrence & Megan Rooney

## **4-H Council**

Members of the Brazos 4-H Council plan and coordinate 4-H activities in the county. The Brazos 4-H Council also promotes district and state level 4-H activities. County Council is comprised of 4-H members from each of the various 4-H clubs in the County. Clubs are encouraged to have two council delegates who will attend the County 4-H Council meetings. Typically, a 4-H member is elected into the position of council delegate and represents his or her club at the County 4-H Council meetings. In most cases, the president of the 4-H club also serves as a delegate to the County 4-H Council. In addition to the club council delegates and presidents, membership to the council is open to all 4-H youth.

The Brazos 4-H Council serves as a communication channel. Council delegates represent their club and relay information and ideas from their club to the council. The council delegates also relay information from the council to their club to keep the members up to date on county-wide activities and events.

Chairman..... Emily Judah, Equestrian Club  
First Vice Chairman.....Alexis Roach, St. Joseph Club  
Second Vice Chairman .....Melanie Sera, Southwood Club  
Secretary.....Thanet Lawrence, Thumpers & Jumpers Club  
Treasurer ..... Julia Lawrence, Thumpers & Jumpers Club  
District Delegate ..... Nikki Barnett, Equestrian Club

## **4-H Council, Club Manager, and Adult Leaders Association Meetings**

**Club Managers meet at 6pm**

**Council and Adult Leaders Association meet at 7pm**

August 16, 2011.....Brazos Center  
September 20, 2011 .....4-H Center (Officers only)  
October 18, 2011 .....Brazos Center  
November 15, 2011.....4-H Center (Officers only)  
NO DECEMBER MEETING  
January 17, 2012.....Brazos Center  
February 21, 2012.....4-H Center (Officers only)  
NO MARCH MEETING  
April 17, 2012 .....Brazos Center  
May 15, 2012.....Brazos Center

## **Ten easy steps to getting the most out of 4-H:**

- Step 1 - Youth Complete Online Enrollment
- Step 2 - Parents Complete Online Enrollment
- Step 3 - Get Involved
- Step 4 - Start a Project
- Step 5 - Complete a Project
- Step 6 - Participate in Activities
- Step 7 - Keep Records
- Step 8 - Share Information
- Step 9 - Help Others
- Step 10 - Promote 4-H



Dear Texas 4-H Families:

Thank you for being an integral part of the largest youth development program in Texas, and the largest 4-H Program in the world. Texas is proud to boast the largest 4-H membership enrollment, total 4-H participation, and the largest 4-H volunteer base in the United States.

In saying that, we are also compelled to tell you that this is indeed a challenging economic time for everyone. The Texas AgriLife Extension Service and 4-H are no different; however, we remain committed to ensuring a strong 4-H and Youth Development Program for our families.

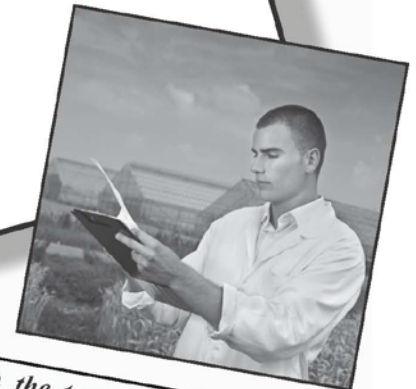
To maintain the level of programming and opportunities in the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, an annual participant fee is necessary for each 4-H member starting with the 2011-2012 4-H year on September 1, 2011. This participant fee of \$25, or \$20 if enrolled from September 1st to October 31st, will hopefully ensure that the Texas AgriLife Extension Service can continue to deliver the highest quality 4-H program in the world. A recent national research study shows:

- Members reporting better grades, higher level of academic competence, and an elevated engagement at school.
- Two times as many members likely to plan to go to college than non-members.
- Members that reveal significantly lower drug, alcohol and cigarette use than their peers.
- Members that are three times more likely to actively contribute to their communities when compared with youth that do not participate in 4-H.

Quite simply, we are convinced that this participation fee is an investment in the youth of Texas. The Texas AgriLife Extension Service is committed to the youth of Texas and it is critically important that each 4-H family knows we are dedicated to continuing to provide the best program worldwide. As we all go through a transition period, we ask each of you to partner with us in creating a positive environment for all our 4-H members.

Thanks for all you do and thanks for **MAKING THE BEST BETTER!**

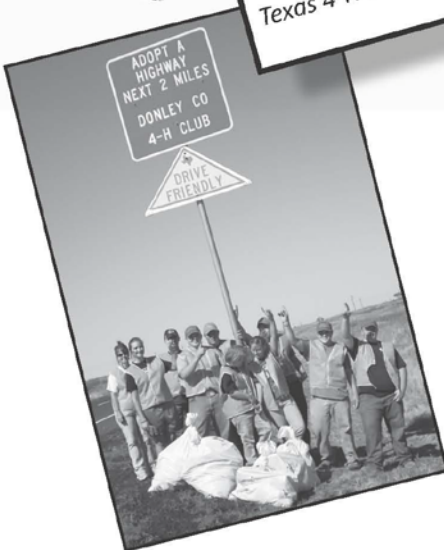
The Texas AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program



*4-H equipped me with the tools needed to build a successful future. It taught me how to be personable, work efficiently in teams, and how to be a kind leader. Most importantly the relationships that were built during my time in 4-H are priceless and I will treasure every memory made.*

*Former 4-H Member & Current Texas A&M University Student*

**We teach life skills  
We instill values  
We build leaders  
WE ARE TEXAS 4-H!**



## Step 1 - Youth Complete Online Enrollment

### Enrollment Time

On September 1<sup>st</sup> each year, all former, new 4-H members, and volunteer leaders must re-enroll for the current year. Enrollment stays current from September 1<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>.



### Enrolling in 4-H

To enroll in a Texas 4-H club, you must register online using the 4-H Connect management system. You will need a computer, internet access, and a Mozilla web browser.

#### *New Members:*

1. Open your Mozilla internet browser. If you do not have Mozilla, please download it free from [www.mozilla.com](http://www.mozilla.com).
2. Go to <https://texas.4honline.com>.
3. Click "I need to setup a profile."
4. Select your county from the drop down menu.
5. Fill in the fields marked Email, Confirm Email, and Last Name and create a password you will remember.
6. Select "Family" on the Role drop down menu.
7. Click "Create Login."
8. Follow the on-screen prompts to register your family and all family members involved in a 4-H club as a member or volunteer (including adults). Fields marked in bold are required.
9. Register each member in all projects or groups they participate in or wish to join in the future.
10. If you are a youth, your registration will be submitted to your county extension office, where an agent will review your application. If you have to make any corrections, they will contact you by e-mail. Once complete and correct, the agent will approve your enrollment.

*Tip: Do not hit your browser's "Back" button while within the 4-H Connect system!*

Questions about 4-H Connect? Contact your Club Manager, County Extension Office at 979-823-0129, or visit the help page on the State 4-H website: [http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/enroll/support/index\\_connecthelp.php](http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/enroll/support/index_connecthelp.php).

#### *Previous Members*

Just click "Login to 4-H Connect. "

- 1) Click the "EDIT" button beside each youth/adult profile, review all information for correct data, select projects, activities, and leadership roles and click ENROLL FOR 2011-2012.
- 2) THEN, you will go through each screen of the person you are enrolling. Please check and be sure the information is complete and click continue on each screen until you get to the last screen.
- 3) If you have reviewed everything and all is updated and correct, please click Submit Enrollment and then wait on our office to accept your enrollment.

## Step 2 - Parents Complete Online Enrollment

Same as above, except as noted in #10.

10. If you are an adult volunteer, your registration will be sent to the Youth Protection Standards Office for screening if you have not been screened, or are due for your three year review. Once you are screened and approved, your registration will be returned back to your county extension office, where an agent will review and accept your application.

### Step 3 - Get Involved

As a Member or Leader, you need to get involved in your local club; attend monthly meetings, volunteer for committees, and stay informed of what is going on in your club. Learn what is going on throughout the County, District and State by reading the Brazos County 4-H Handbook, 4-H Newsletters, Brazos County 4-H Connection (our online bulletin board) and the 4-H and Youth Development pages on the Brazos County Extension website:

<http://brazos.agrilife.org/>

Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
in Brazos County

Contact Events Newsletters Publications Links

Welcome to the Brazos County Extension Office

Brazos County, like many other Texas counties, is concentrating on growing a strong educational system and developing a strong economy that will prepare its citizens and its children for the 21st century. It is the home of Texas A&M University and the Fightin' Texas Aggies.

Recreation in Brazos County includes fishing, hunting, a raceway and the many events/activities relating to the Texas A&M University. The George Bush Presidential Library and Museum are located in College Station.

The first quarter of 1998 cost of living index by the American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association shows Bryan-College Station as one of the least expensive places in the U.S. in which to live. Based on this cost of living survey, Bryan-College Station was the 2nd least expensive Texas city, of 29 Texas cities surveyed, and the 5th least expensive U.S. city, of 329 cities surveyed, in which to live. The survey's U.S. composite index is 100 % with the Bryan-College Station cost of living index coming in at 87.0 %.

College Station Easter Celebration. Flickr Photo: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/georgebushlibrary/5704927444/>

Agents in Action: Texas AgriLife Extension...

JOIN GROUPS

4-H & YOUTH

4-H Connect

District 9 4-H

Texas State 4-H

Brazos Co. Youth Livestock Show

Find our Newsletters and Program guides here.

### Brazos County Cultural Exchange Program

The Program:

- Participants: Approximately 250 youth over 28 years.
- Three year commitment from youth and parents
  - Year One: Host selected Exchange State
  - Year Two: Travel to Exchange State
  - Year Three: Travel to Washington D.C.
- Fundraising: Families work Texas A&M Concession Stands during athletic events
  - Savings to families of over \$700,000 over 28 years

Enroll in 4-H here.



## Join a Club!

The following are the 9 County 4-H Clubs in Brazos County and their Club Name, Club Manager(s), Project descriptions, meeting location, date and time:

CLUB MANAGER(S)	CLUB NAME & PROJECT DESCRIPTION	MEETING LOCATION, DATE AND TIME
<b><u>Archery Club</u></b>		
<p>Debbie Perez cell 979-255-9759 <a href="mailto:dperez@gap.tamu.edu">dperez@gap.tamu.edu</a></p> <p>Pablo Herrera cell 979-575-7288 <a href="mailto:pablo.inusa@gmail.com">pablo.inusa@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>The Archery Club promotes all aspects of archery as a sport.</p>	<p><u>Meets:</u> 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month</p> <p><u>Location:</u> Westminster Presbyterian Church 3333 Oak Ridge Drive Bryan, TX 77802</p> <p><u>Time:</u> 7 p.m.</p> <p><u>Website:</u> <a href="http://www.Brazos-4H-Archery.org">www.Brazos-4H-Archery.org</a></p>
<b><u>Sportsman's Club</u></b>		
<p>Shelley &amp; Bubba Nemecc 979-260-4108 <a href="mailto:4hsportsmans@txcyber.com">4hsportsmans@txcyber.com</a></p>	<p>The Sportsman's Club emphasizes activities pertinent to skeet, trap and related shotgun shooting events as well as firearms, safety. The 4H Sportsman's Club also helps youth to promote good citizenship and build leadership skills. Annual activities include New Shooter's Classes, Brazos County Shoot, Can Food Drive for the Brazos Food Bank, and participation at the Texas State 4H Shooting Sports Games.</p>	<p><u>Meets:</u> 1st Monday each month</p> <p><u>Time:</u> 6:30</p> <p><u>Location:</u> Sam Rayburn Middle School</p>
<b><u>Equestrian Club</u></b>		
<p>Camy Sturdivant home 979-690-6479/cell 979-450-1763 <a href="mailto:csturdivant@mail.bio.tamu.edu">csturdivant@mail.bio.tamu.edu</a></p> <p>Charity Judah home 979-589-3272/cell 979-820-3229 <a href="mailto:charityjudah@henryjudah.com">charityjudah@henryjudah.com</a></p> <p>Matt Nichols 979-774-4152 <a href="mailto:matt.nichols091@gmail.com">matt.nichols091@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Shaye Murphy 713-446-0794 <a href="mailto:mmoranmurphy@gmail.com">mmoranmurphy@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Bill Merka 979-846-8817 <a href="mailto:merka@mail.chem.tamu.edu">merka@mail.chem.tamu.edu</a></p>	<p>Equestrian Club activities include holding an Open Horse Show, Horse Judging, Horse Bowl, riding sessions and a Horsemanship Clinic. Community service includes working the annual Christmas tree recycling for the community and many other projects.</p>	<p><u>Meets:</u> 1<sup>st</sup> Monday each month</p> <p><u>Location:</u> TAMU Vet School, Rm 101 (call for directions)</p> <p><u>Time:</u> 7 PM</p>

## River Valley Horsemen

<p>Dr. Brett Scott home 979-690-1816/work 979-845-5005 <a href="mailto:brettscott1989@gmail.com">brettscott1989@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Angela Jacobson home 979-693-8510 <a href="mailto:aj1aggie@aol.com">aj1aggie@aol.com</a></p>	<p>River Valley Horsemen's Club is a multi-interest club. The club includes youth that participate in horse shows, horse judging, livestock projects (lamb, goats, swine, cattle, rabbits), community service projects, leadership labs and all aspects of 4-H. We participate in many diverse community service projects that include: toy collection for MASH, volunteering at the Food Bank, donating goods to various community groups, adopting families at Christmas and nursing home visits. This is a fun club that addresses all aspects of 4-H.</p>	<p><u>Meets:</u> 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month</p> <p><u>Location:</u> Louis Pearce Pavilion, TAMU Campus</p> <p><u>Time:</u> 6:30 p.m.</p>
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## Runtin' N' Gruntin'

<p>Lisa Casey cell 979-218-2768 <a href="mailto:lcasey@gsiog.net">lcasey@gsiog.net</a></p> <p>Tammy Broussard 979-777-6679 / 979-589-3449</p>	<p>A diverse-interest club that examines a wide range of 4-H projects. We have a broad focus on community service projects to a variety of charitable organizations in the community. Also a club Christmas party, various field trips and an end-of-the year party are held annually.</p>	<p><u>Meets:</u> 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month</p> <p><u>Location:</u> Bonham Elementary School Cafeteria</p> <p><u>Time:</u> 6:30 PM</p>
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## St. Joseph

<p>Sharon Alderete 979-229-2612 <a href="mailto:salderete@earthlink.net">salderete@earthlink.net</a></p> <p>Norma Flores 979-846-8485 / 979-218-9476 <a href="mailto:stjoseph4hclub@gmail.com">stjoseph4hclub@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>St. Joseph 4-H Club members' projects include swine, horticulture, beef, poultry, sheep, goats, rabbits, food &amp; nutrition, livestock judging, clothing, and woodworking. Community service projects have included adopting a family at Christmas, collecting toys for MASH, KBTX Food for Families Food Drive, and nursing home visits.</p>	<p><u>Meets:</u> 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month</p> <p><u>Location:</u> St. Joseph P.A.C. Center</p> <p><u>Time:</u> 6:30 PM</p>
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## Southwood

<p>Sonya Bouse 979-690-2922 / 979-324-4638 <a href="mailto:sonyabouse@hotmail.com">sonyabouse@hotmail.com</a></p> <p>Darlene Hamiter 979-589-1331 <a href="mailto:finelin2@hotmail.com">finelin2@hotmail.com</a></p> <p>Megan &amp; Bill Rooney 979-690-8690 cell 979-220-1952 <a href="mailto:me garoo@verizon.net">me garoo@verizon.net</a></p> <p>Charles &amp; Stephanie Wendt 979-485-0011 <a href="mailto:wmcwendt@hotmail.com">wmcwendt@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p>Southwood 4-H Club explores the diverse range of projects available in 4-H as well as concentrating on such projects as food &amp; nutrition, crafts, photography, animals (beef, swine, poultry, and sheep), clothing, dogs, entomology and gardening. Service projects include involvement in the annual KBTX Food Drive, Relay for Life and nursing home visits. Clover Kids K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade.</p>	<p><u>Meets:</u> 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month</p> <p><u>Location:</u> Wellborn Community Center, 4119 Greens Prairie Rd. West, College Station</p> <p><u>Time:</u> <i>Clover Kids 6 PM</i> Southwood 6:30 PM</p> <p><u>Website:</u> <a href="http://southwood4h.webs.com">http://southwood4h.webs.com</a></p> <p>Find us on Facebook at Southwood 4H Club</p>
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## Thumpers & Jumpers

Beth Lawrence  
979-690-1065  
[bj.lawrence@verizon.net](mailto:bj.lawrence@verizon.net)

Dell Hamilton  
979-690-1878  
[deh@tamu.edu](mailto:deh@tamu.edu)

Thumpers & Jumpers is a special interest rabbit club. Club members host the annual County Rabbit Workshop, participate in T.R.B.A. (Texas Rabbit Breeders Association) and A.R.B.A. (American Rabbit Breeders Association) events as well as the state level 4-H Rabbit Extravaganza. Other member interests include Food & Nutrition, Photography, public speaking, horticulture, consumer science and other animal projects (goats, horses, and beef). Community service project highlights from past years include the local food drive, donations to local animal shelters, participation in Habitat for Humanity and Relay for Life.

Meets:  
4th Tuesday each month

Location:  
St. Thomas Episcopal Church 906 George Bush Drive College Station, TX

Time: 7:00 PM

## Wixon Valley

Vicki Hillert  
979-412-0973  
[hillertfamily@verizon.net](mailto:hillertfamily@verizon.net)

Cheryl Kocman  
979-696-1478  
[kocmans@yahoo.com](mailto:kocmans@yahoo.com)

Rachelle Dudley  
979-690-6211  
[r-dudley@tamu.edu](mailto:r-dudley@tamu.edu)

Renee Cass  
979-324-3870  
[renee.cass@suddenlink.net](mailto:renee.cass@suddenlink.net)

Wixon Valley is a multi-interest club with animal projects ranging from goats to commercial steers. Other projects include Junior Master Gardener Program, photography, clothing, arts & crafts, and foods & nutrition. Community service projects include Habitat for Humanity, Project Literacy, international projects, Mexico orphanage, food drives, and nursing home visitation.

Meets:  
4th Monday each month

Location:  
Sam Rayburn Middle School

Time: 6:30 PM

## Archery Club

Melanie Sera .....	President
Paul Hinton .....	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Josh Kim .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Annie Perez .....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President
Tonie Sahn .....	Secretary
Paul Hinton .....	Treasurer
Paul Hinton .....	Council Delegate
Abbey Judah .....	Council Delegate
Abbey Judah .....	Reporter
Tonie Sahn .....	Parliamentarian

## Brazos Sportsman's Club

Gayla Gregory .....	President
Matt Martinez.....	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Coulter DeWitt .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Jacob Wiese .....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President
Chelsea McAdams.....	Secretary
Derek Henicke .....	Treasurer
Dustin Tschirhart .....	Reporter
Cody Murph/Phillip Jungman .....	Council Delegate/Parliamentarian

### Junior Club Officers

Ethan Ellis .....	Jr. President
Eli Ellis .....	Jr. 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Aaron Nemece.....	Jr. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Garrett Browning.....	Jr. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President
Charles Schumann .....	Jr. Secretary
Chance Pierce.....	Jr. Reporter
Aaron Crum.....	Jr. Council Delegate

## Equestrian Club

Emily Judah .....	President
Ali Fratessa .....	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Megan Feldman.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Lauren Baxter .....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President
Laura Bilke .....	4 <sup>th</sup> Vice President
Rachel Lucht.....	Secretary
Mallory Nichols .....	Treasurer
Fiona Cohen .....	Reporter
Nikki Barnett .....	Council Delegate
Aaron Walker .....	Council Delegate

## River Valley Horsemen Club

Cheyenne Jacobson.....	President
Nikki Barnett.....	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Kyle Scott .....	Council Delegate
Morgan Payne .....	Secretary
.....	Treasurer
.....	Reporter
.....	Parliamentarian

## Runtin' N' Gruntin' Club

Jessica Zdunkawicz.....	President
Bailey Becker.....	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Nicole Zwernemann .....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Hannah Broussard .....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President
Hannah Hardin .....	Reporter
Kelsey Taylor .....	Secretary
Riley Philipello .....	Treasurer
Burke Mumford .....	Health & Safety
Katelyn Todd .....	Parliamentarian
Andrew Barnes .....	Council Delegate
Rebecca Casey.....	Historian

## St. Joseph Club

Alexis Roach .....	President
Carlton Smith .....	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Haley Hosea.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Kallie Schuler .....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President
Brighton Slovacek .....	Treasurer
Katerina Martinez.....	Parliamentarian
Alyssa Roach.....	Secretary
Alex Alderete.....	Historian
McKenzie Zemanek.....	Reporter
Jeremy Martinez.....	Health & Safety
Dylan Slovacek .....	Council Delegate

## Thumpers and Jumpers Club

Thanet Lawrence .....	President
Paul Hinton .....	Vice President of Programs
Katherine Hinton .....	Vice President of Recreation
Marc Vogelsang .....	Vice President of Facilities
Julia Lawrence .....	Vice President of Community Service
Kayla Wallace .....	Secretary
Nathan McClaran .....	Treasurer
Lauren Willis .....	Reporter
Morgan Hamilton.....	Council Delegate
Caroline Lawrence .....	Council Delegate

## Wixon Valley Club

.....	President
.....	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
.....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President
.....	Secretary
.....	Treasurer
.....	Council Delegate
.....	Reporter
.....	Parliamentarian
.....	Co-Historian
.....	Co-Historian
.....	Safety Officer

### Junior Club Officers

.....	Jr. 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
.....	Jr. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
.....	Jr. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President
.....	Jr. Reporter
.....	Jr. Co-Historian
.....	Jr. Safety Officer

## Southwood Club

David Rooney .....	President
Natasha Holub .....	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Ryan Murphy .....	Asst. 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President
Emelia Hamiter.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Tristin Tice.....	Asst. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Travis Rooney .....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President
Ryan Bouse.....	4 <sup>th</sup> Vice President
Andrew Tremblay.....	Asst. 4 <sup>th</sup> Vice President
Abby Spiegelman .....	Secretary
Lyndi Ruesink .....	Asst. Secretary
Jordan Brown.....	Treasurer
Reena Fernandes.....	Historian
Clare Fusselman .....	Asst. Historian
Jonathan Kocmoud.....	Reporter/Web Master
Melanie Sera.....	Council Delegate
Caelie Rockwell .....	Council Delegate Alt.
Keelie Wendt.....	Health/Safety
Trew Adams .....	Asst. Health/Safety
Chad Ruesink.....	Parliamentarian

## Step 4 - Start a Project

On the 4-H Connect Enrollment pages, 4-H members are asked to select projects of interest to them. When you start your 4-H experience, you may want to select one or two projects. The more years you are in 4-H, the more projects you can usually handle. 4-H projects can be conducted throughout the 4-H year (September 1-August 31). Certain projects have special activities or contests, so you need to begin some projects at specific times during the year. After you select your projects, contact your Club Manager or County Extension office if you have any questions.

### Brazos County 4-H Livestock Projects Important Dates

<u>LIVESTOCK</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Market Steers	Validation/Ownership Deadline	6/2011
Commercial Steers	Validation/Ownership Deadline	10/2011
BCYLS Market Steers	Validation/Ownership Deadline (same day as Commercial Steers)	10/2011
Lambs	Validation/Ownership Deadline	10/2011
	(See 4-H Newsletter for more information)	
Goats	Validation/Ownership Deadline	10/2011
	(See 4-H Newsletter for more information)	
Barrows-Majors	Validation/Ownership Deadline	11/2011
Barrows-BCYLS only	Validation/Ownership Deadline	12/2011
Market Turkeys	(Order Date)	7/2011
Houston Broilers	(Order Date)	10/2011
San Antonio Broilers	(Order Date)	10/2011
BCYLS Broilers	(Order Date)	1/2012
Market Rabbit	(Order Date)	2/2012

**\*\*NOTE:** Poultry: The date ordered is not the entry date. You must submit entries at the designated time to be able to show.

**\*\*\*NOTE:** Rabbits: Make special note of the breeding dates for market rabbits or when they must be purchased.

## Step 5 - Complete a Project

After you have selected your project you are ready to start gaining information and having fun learning about your project. In 4-H, you are asked to do a minimum of six learning experiences to complete a project. Learning experiences will vary from project to project, such as meetings with other 4-H'ers and Leaders, going on tours, attending workshops, reading publications or surfing the Internet. Many 4-H'ers work on the project with their parents, grandparents or other family members while other 4-H'ers work on projects with a group of friends. Working through a project from start to finish helps a 4-H member gain skills in carrying out responsibilities, as well as setting and completing goals.

### General Project Calendar for Brazos County

On the following pages, you will find a table that outlines some of the project areas in Brazos County 4-H. Use this information to look ahead for major deadlines and event timeframes. Each item will occur around the week written or weeks (using an arrow) as noted on the table.

Then, refer to the 4-H Calendar found on the county website to find specific dates and project meetings.

## COUNTY 4-H AWARDS, RECORD BOOKS AND PINS

In addition to recognition at Brazos County 4-H Contests, 4-H members are also recognized for accomplishments at the annual Brazos County 4-H Achievement Banquet held in the early fall. The entry deadline for these awards is in July. All awards applications can be found in the Brazos County Awards & Recognition Handbook, and briefly described here:

- 1) **RECORD BOOK AWARDS** - Record Book awards are presented based on what 4-Hers report in their 4-H Record Book. Committees judge or evaluate project work and achievement, leadership, personal growth and development by reading the record books.
- 2) **4-H YEAR PINS** - 4-H Completion Year Pins are awarded to every 4-H member in Brazos County who completes a 4-H project during the year and turns in a Record Book or Member Achievement Plan (MAP)
- 3) **PROJECT COMPLETION PINS** - Project pins are awarded to members who complete a 4-H Record Book at the Junior, Intermediate or Senior level.
- 4) **ROOKIE AWARDS** - A 4-H member who has completed his or her first year of membership, regardless of age, is eligible for the Rookie Award.
- 5) **4-H HONOR ROLL** - Available to Junior members, ages 8 and in the third grade through 10 years old who meet the established criteria.
- 6) **4-H ALL STAR** - Available to Intermediate members, ages 11-13 who meet the established criteria.
- 7) **4-H LETTERMAN** - Available to Senior members, ages 14 and over who meet the established criteria.
- 8) **DANFORTH I DARE YOU AWARD** - This award is offered as recognition of excellence in character, well-balanced personal development and demonstrated leadership. Brazos County will give two (2) awards to deserving Senior age 4-H Members.
- 9) **GOLD STAR AWARD** - The Gold Star Award is the most sought-after 4-H award at the county level. It is awarded each year to four (4) or more outstanding Senior 4-H members in Brazos County based on their total 4-H career.
- 10) **SILVER STAR AWARD** - The Silver Star Award is presented each year to four (4) or more outstanding 4-H Intermediate Members. An application form for the award must be completed and turned in with the record book.
- 11) **BRONZE STAR AWARD** - The Bronze Star Award will be presented each year to four (4) outstanding 4-H Junior Members at the County Awards Banquet. An application form for the award must be completed and turned in with
- 12) **SPECIAL COUNTY AWARDS** - The following awards are made available on a county-wide basis to encourage excellence in 4-H projects. A 4-H member is eligible for any award if the project is included in the 4-H Record Book, and a member may apply for all awards. Awards for Outstanding Achievement are awarded in the following project areas: Archery, Beef, Citizenship\*, Clothing, Community Service\*, Meat Goat, Field & Stream, Food & Nutrition, Horse, Horticulture, Leadership\*, Photography, Poultry, Public Speaking, Rabbit, Range Management, Sheep, Shooting Sports, and Swine.

\*Denotes projects judged on overall 4-H performance, not necessarily limited to one project area.

## Step 6 - Participate in Activities

Activities are contests or opportunities for 4-H members to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have gained through their project work. Some of the activities allow a team of 4-H'ers to prepare a presentation, while other activities are for individual contest entry.

Participating in 4-H activities helps the member gain public speaking skills and presentation skills that will help them throughout their life. Other activities available to 4-H'ers are a variety of camps and workshops conducted mainly in the summer.

Some of the major activities:

Fashion Shows	Performing Arts	Judging Contests
Quiz Bowls	Horse Shows	Shooting Sports Contests
Food Shows	Livestock Shows	Talks or Method Demonstrations
Outdoor Activities	Photography Contests	Dog Shows

### Camps

County Camp, July	(all ages)
Prime Time, July	(9-13 year olds)
Jr. Leadership Lab, Oct./Nov.	(11-13 year olds)
Spectra, July	(14-18 year olds)
Leadership Lab, June	(14-18 year olds)
Teen Retreat, January	(13-19 year olds)

***You must register on 4-H Connect to participate in some of the activities 4-H has to offer.***

1. When approved, you may log in to your account by clicking "I have a profile" and providing your email address and password.
2. On the "Member List" page, scroll to the bottom of the page and select a member from the "Register a member for an event" drop down menu. Select the event you are registering. Only events that a member is eligible for will be shown.
3. After you register, your county extension agent will review your registration and approve.

### **Brazos County Youth Livestock Show**

As in the past, the 2012 Brazos County Youth Livestock Show and Sale is anticipated by numerous 4-H and FFA members from throughout Brazos County. The 56th annual Brazos County Youth Livestock Show and Auction will be held at the Brazos County Exposition Complex, March 30 – April 3, 2012.

Judging will include livestock projects, agricultural mechanics projects, and in family and consumer science the following categories: baked and canned goods, clothing, arts and crafts, woodworking, metalworking, ornamental horticulture and photography.

**The website for Brazos County Youth Livestock Association is: <http://www.bcyla.net>**

### **Eligibility Form**

This is a required form for competitive events and both the form and the instructions related to the form are at the end of the handbook.

## Step 7 - Keep Records

When you spend time working on a project, you need to record or take notes and pictures to track what you learn through your progress. Brazos County 4-H'ers have the chance to complete a ***Record Book*** for recognition at the Annual 4-H Awards Banquet held in the fall and to be considered for 4-H awards. 4-H Record Books are a great way for 4-Her's to keep records of their progress on their project! In constructing a 4-H Record Book, members organize information about their participation and accomplishments in all 4-H projects and activities. Any project can be completed using a 4-H Record Book. Record books are judged at county, district, and state levels at the end of the project year.

## Step 8 - Share Information

As a 4-H member, you learn to share with others the information you gain through your project experience.

## Step 9 - Help Others

The 4-H experience includes helping others. We call our 4-H helping, Community Service. This is something that you do for a non- 4-H audience without pay or compensation.

### “One Day” Community Service Project Day



One day 4-H is a way for all 4-H members to take one day to say “thank you” to their communities, county, and state for all the support they have provided to 4-H members for more than 100 years.

One day 4-H will occur on October 8, 2011, in every county across Texas. Each 4-H member can recruit friends to help make their communities better through adopting a service project. These projects can be done as individuals or as an entire county 4-H Program. Regardless of the project that is chosen, it is one day to make a difference!

## Step 10 - Promote 4-H

4-H is the largest youth organization in the country because we are always inviting others to attend. Part of your 4-H experience will be to get others involved in the program. This could mean asking a friend to visit your club meeting or preparing a poster for National 4-H Week October 2-8, 2011.







*Agri***LIFE EXTENSION**  
Texas A&M System  
**DECLARATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**



**PARENT/GUARDIAN /COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT - Complete This Section**

1. In accordance with 4-H policy, provided by our local Extension office, I respectfully request (check (✓) one):
  - Academic eligibility information only
  - Academic eligibility information and authorization to receive an excused absence from school

Date of Activity(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Activity: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_
3. I hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a member of 4-H in **Brazos** County and is scheduled to participate in this activity representing 4-H. He/she will be under the supervision of Texas AgriLife Extension faculty and/or our agency's designated volunteer leader.
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
Date County Extension Agent

**PRINCIPAL - Complete This Section**

5. Check (✓) one:
  - I do certify that the student is academically eligible to participate in the above mentioned extracurricular activity.
  - I do not certify the student because he/she is NOT academically eligible to participate in the above mentioned extracurricular activity.
6. Check (✓) one:
  - An excused absence will be granted.
  - An excused absence will **not** be granted.
  - Does not apply.
7. Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal or Designee  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of School

**Instructions on back**

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

## WORK FROM THE TOP DOWN

### Parents/Guardians fill out the top portion including:

1. The academic eligibility information boxes and the Date of the activity, the Name of Activity,
2. The parent/guardian signature
3. AND the Name of the child

### Extension office

4. Our office fills in the date and uses a signature stamp for the County Extension Agent signature.

### The principal of your child's school will fill in the bottom portion including:

5. The academic eligibility confirmation box(es)
6. The absence box(es)
7. The Principal's signature with the name of school and date signed

The Extension office will then need a copy for our documentation and the child will keep the original to be presented, if needed, to the event supervisor or the school.

The copy may be sent any of the following ways:

- ✓ Mailed to our office at: **2619 Highway 21 W., Bryan, TX 77803**
- ✓ Scanned and emailed to [ejbesser@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:ejbesser@ag.tamu.edu) or [gjhoyt@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:gjhoyt@ag.tamu.edu)
- ✓ Faxed to **#979-775-3768**
- ✓ Brought in and we will make the copy for you

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