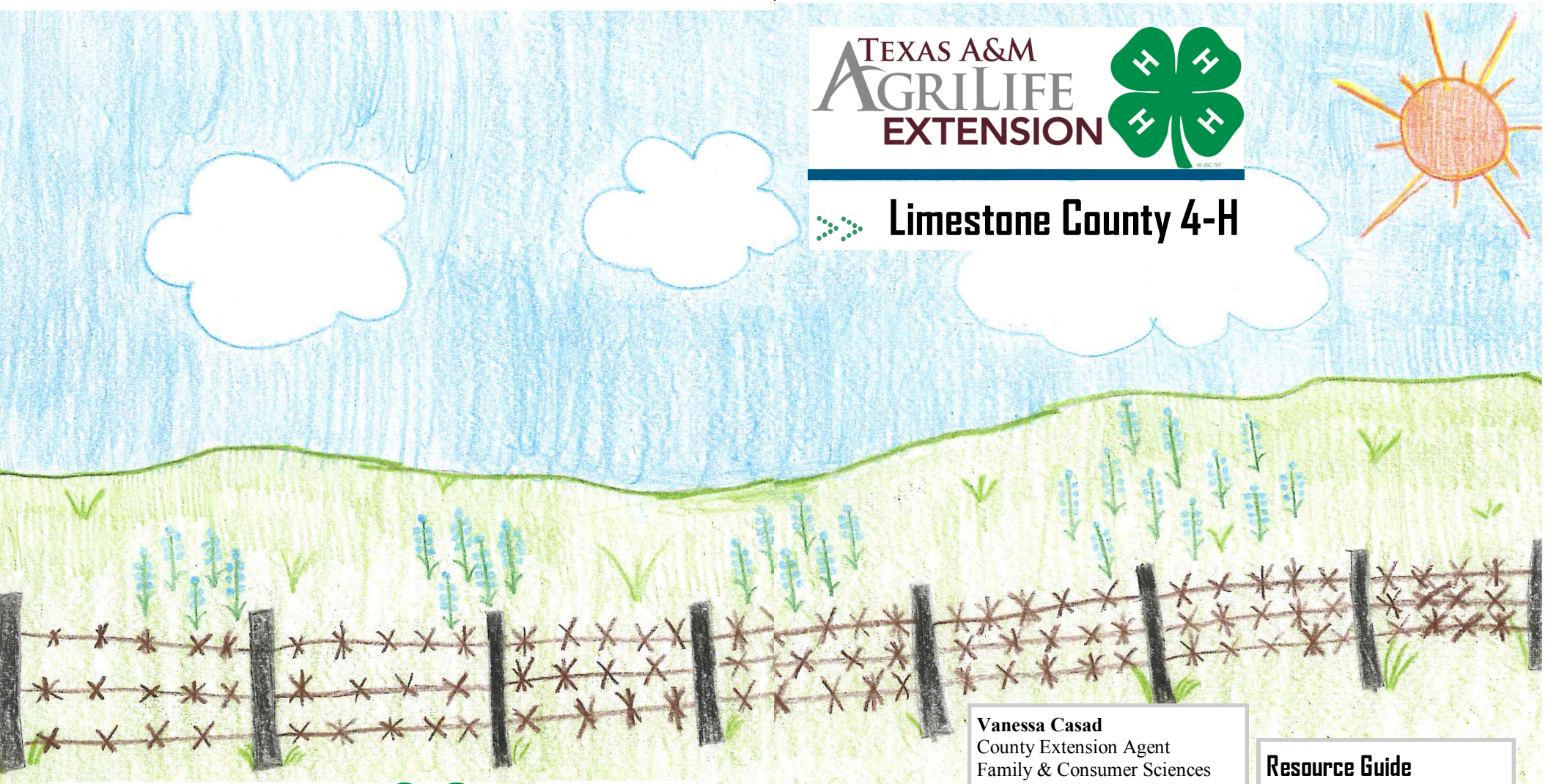

Limestone County 4-H

Cover art by 4-H member Alyssa McDonald

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Resource Guide 2013-2014

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4-H Motto "To Make The Best Better"

4-H 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 & my world.

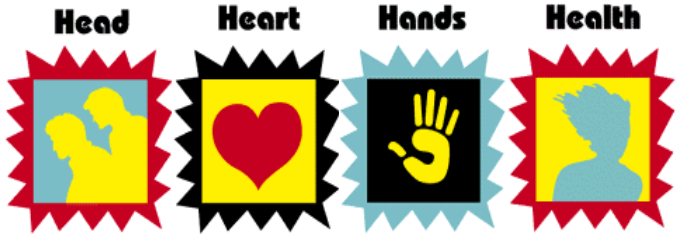
The four H's represent…

Head: decision making, and problem solving. Knowledge that is useful throughout life.

Heart: self-discipline, integrity, communication, positive self concept, concern for others.

Hands: serving others, workforce preparedness, useful skills, science and technology literacy.

Health: better living,



4-H Prayer

Help me, O Lord, to live so that the world may be a little better because Thou didst make me. Amen.

The 4-H Emblem and Colors

The 4-H Club emblem is the four-leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaf. The 4-H colors are green and white. Green symbolizes nature's most common color and represents life, springtime, & youth. White symbolizes purity.

Stay in Touch!

There are several ways we are communicating with 4-H families:

- A weekly email, "Monday Memo,"
- Facebook, www.facebook.com/LimestoneCounty4H
- Newsletter, via email when we have an email address, otherwise via postal mail
- Website, http://limestone.agrilife.org/

Please be sure we have your current contact information on file!

2013-2014 Texas 4-H Project List

Beef
Biological Science
Citizenship
Clothing & Textiles
Companion Animals
Computer Science
Consumer Education
Entomology
Family Life Education
Field & Stream
Food & Nutrition
Forestry
Global Ed & Awareness
Goats—Meat
Health
Horse
Horticulture
Housing & Home Environment
Leadership
Meat Science
Natural Resources
Outdoor Education
Photography & Videography
Poultry
Public Speaking
Rabbits
Range Sciences & Mgmt
Recreation
Safety
Sheep
Shooting Sports
Soil & Crop Science
Sportfishing
Swine
Theater & Performance Arts
Vet Science
Water
Wildlife & Fisheries
Workplace Prep/Careers
Youth Entrepreneurship

Camps!!!

4-H has several opportunities for fun, leadership, and learning.

National
National 4-H Congress—November

State
Junior Leadership Retreat—November
Teen Leader Retreat—January
M.A.S.H. Camp—June
Texas 4-H Congress—July (every other year)

District
Leadership Lab—June

County
Multi-County Camp—July

2013 Multi-County Camp, Palestine

PROJECTS ARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

2013-2014 Limestone County 4-H Motto
By Colton Rich

Limestone County Age Categories

Clover Division - Age 5 to 8 and not in the third grade as of August 31st of the current year. Clover members are encouraged to participate but are only eligible for county level competitions. Clover Kids do not pay a participation fee.

Junior Division - Ages 8 and in the third grade up to 10 years old as of August 31st of the current year. Must be in at least the third grade. May compete in club, county, and district levels.

Intermediate Division - Ages 11 to 13 as of August 31st of the current year. May compete in club, county, and district levels.

Senior Division - 14 to18 as of August 31st of the current year. May compete in club, county, district, and state levels.

- Participation fee for 4-H—$20 before November 1, $25 on November 1 and after.
- All ages are as of August 31 of the current year.
- Clover Kids can only participate on a county level.
- 4-Hers must be active status on 4-H Connect, which means getting a green enrollment form completed & turned in to the Extension office by October 30, 2013.
- 4-Hers must be passing school to participate—No Pass, No Play UIL rules apply to 4-H participation.

Limestone County 4-H Clubs

Be sure to contact the 4-H Club Manager to confirm meeting date, time, & location!

Club Name	Club Manager Contact Info Usual Meeting Dates & Location
Kosse 4-H	Cindy Ensminger (254) 729-0648 1st Monday of the month, 6:30 pm Kosse Community Center
Mexia 4-H	Cathy Owens (254) 723-1232 1st Tuesday of the month, 6:30 pm Gibbs Memorial Library https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mexia-4-H-Club/411515512292006
Shooting Sports	Jimmy Owens (254) 625-2505 Mondays, 6:00 pm Limestone County Show Barn / Arena https://www.facebook.com/pages/Limestone-County-4H-Shooting-Sports/199787186744808
Limestone Leaders 4-H	Debbe Hall (254) 729-8233 Lynn Parsons (903) 390-2589 Mondays, 1 pm * call for location
Groesbeck 4-H	Sabrina Carter (254) 855-9908 1st Monday of the month, 6 pm HO Whitehurst cafeteria

Limestone County Leadership Groups

4-H Adult Leaders

Meetings are open to all club managers, leaders, and parents

First meeting: October 21, 6 pm, Extension Office

Other meetings: TBD

4-H & Youth Development Advisory Board

The advisory board ensures relevant programs are being implemented in the county.

4-H & YD Board members, both youth and adult, are elected for a two year term. Youth board members must be between the ages of 12 and 18.

First meeting: October 28, 6 pm, Extension Office

Other meetings: TBD

Each year, we need nominees for board members. If you know someone who meets the requirements, contact the county extension office.

FYI—County Holidays

You won't be able to find us in the Extension Office on these dates:

- Monday, November 11, 2013
- Thursday & Friday, November 28 & 29, 2013
- Tuesday & Wednesday, December 24 & 25, 2013
- Wednesday, January 1, 2014
- Monday, January 20, 2014
- Friday & Monday, April 18 & 21, 2014
- Monday, May 26, 2014
- Friday, July 4, 2014
- Monday, September 1, 2014

4-H Achievement Awards

You will notice a common theme among all the awards listed here—they all require a 4-H recordbook!

Gold Star Award:

Highest county award & is awarded only once in a member's 4-H career

Members must be at least 15 at the time of application & must have completed at least 3 years in 4-H, including current year

Must submit a 4-H recordbook in the year she or he is to be considered

The 4-H member must have completed projects in three project areas, have submitted appropriate recordbook forms, and have participated in one or more activities in three of the following areas:

> Educational Presentations; Citizenship activities; Projects; Project exhibits; Camps; Leadership Labs; Public relations (speeches, poster displays, radio, TV, newspapers); Other 4-H Activities (including fundraising, State & National 4-H Congress, etc.).

The member must have exhibited leadership skills by serving as a 4-H officer or committee chairman (club, county, district, or state), and/or as a junior or teen leader in an activity or project with or under the supervision of an adult volunteer leader. The 4-H member must have participated in one or more community service activities.

Silver Star Award	Bronze Star Award
Intermediate 4-Hers	Junior 4-Hers
Minimum of 3 projects & 2 activities each year	Minimum of 2 projects & 2 activities each year.

Requirements for both Silver & Bronze Star Awards:

- Must turn in a competitive 4-H recordbook
- Must be interviewed by a panel of judges
- Must have a minimum of three projects and two activities each year.
- Number of winners is determined by the judges. Can only win this award once.

Limestone County 4-H Activities Timeline

September
- HOT Fair Entries Due
- Order Major Show Swine Tags
- County & District Photo Contest
- State Fair of TX, Dallas
- County Show Turkey Orders

October
- State Fair of TX, Dallas
- Heart O'Texas Fair & Rodeo, Waco
- National 4-H Week
- One Day 4-H
- Market Steer Validation for County Show
- D8 Gold Star Banquet
- Major Show Lamb & Goat Validation

November
- Holiday Classic, Belton
- Major Show Swine Validation
- Major Show Sign-Up Day
- County Food Challenge & Food Show

December
- Ag Product ID Contest
- D8 Food Challenge & Food Show

January
- Fort Worth Livestock Show
- D8 Dairy Judging Contest
- LCFA Validation
- County Show Broilers Orders

February
- San Antonio Livestock Show
- San Angelo Stock Show & Rodeo
- 2015 Limestone County Fair

March
- 4-H Clipping Days Prior to County Show
- County Show Validations & Declarations of Projects
- D8 Consumer Decision Making Contest
- D8 Nutrition Quiz Bowl
- D8 Entomology Contest
- Star of Texas (Austin)
- 2014 Limestone County Fair

April
- D8 Fashion Show & Storyboard Contests
- D8 Horse Judging
- D8 Wool & Mohair Judging
- D8 Plant ID Contest
- D8 Range Evaluation
- D8 Roundup
- Multi-District Contests—Livestock Judging

May
- D8 Leaders 4 Life Skillathon
- D8 Rifle Contest
- State 4-H Photo Contest

June
- Texas 4-H Roundup
- County Recordbook Contest
- D8 Horse Show
- Leadership Lab (camp)

July
- County Camp
- D8 Recordbook Contest
- Shooting Sports Games
- Texas 4-H Congress
- Texas 4-H Horse Show
- Texas 4-H Volunteer Training

August
- Texas 4-H Recordbook Contest
- New 4-H Enrollment Starts
- Awards Ceremony & Dance
- State Fair Entries Due
- Pen of 2 County Show Validation
- Order Major Show Lamb & Goat Tags

Texas 4-H Record Books & Record Keeping

4-H Recordbooks

Why in the world do we keep emphasizing the importance of the 4-H Recordbook? Well, 4-H Record Keeping is an important part of the project experience. And keeping a recordbook gives you a "4-H Resume" of sorts. By keeping track of all that you accomplish in 4-H, you give yourself a handy reference when you apply for jobs, apply to college, or try for scholarships.

Complete recordbooks are submitted in June for county competition. Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Recordbooks that win first in county can compete in the District 8 4-H Recordbook Contest in July.

The only way to qualify for the top county honor, the Gold Star, is to submit a recordbook. Other awards that require a recordbook are the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and other special awards.

Recordbook training is offered by your County Extension Agents and there is ample guidance online, Texas4-h.tamu.edu/youth_recordbooks.

Recordbooks can be completed online or in Word format. With either format, the book is then printed out to be turned in.

4-H Recordbooks online: 4hreports.com/index.aspx

Word Version forms: Texas4-h.tamu.edu/youth_recordbooks

Scholarships

Start planning in Junior High to maximize your leadership, activities, community service, and recordbook.

Early planning gives you the most comprehensive, competitive application when your senior year rolls around.

Your County Extension Agents offer an informational meeting in September or October for all Jr. High & High School 4-Hers & parents and a scholarship training in November for Seniors in High School & their parents only.

Scholarship applications usually ask for the following type of information:

- 4-H leadership activities, such as office held, project groups conducted, level of Leadership responsibility.
- 4-H community service projects and your participation.
- 4-H project experiences & awards
- School & community leadership, activities, awards
- Narratives on career choices & on 4-H experiences
- SAT and ACT scores

http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/scholarships

Helpful 4-H Websites

Limestone County Extension Office
Limestone.agrilife.org

Limestone County 4-H's Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/LimestoneCounty4H

Texas 4-H
Texas4-h.tamu.edu