

## 4-H Livestock Project News January 2012

Good luck to all exhibitors competing at the County Show, Kerrville and Fort Worth later this month!

### Clip Days

When: January 9-10th

Where: County Show Barn

Time: 3:30-7:30 p.m.

If you need help getting your animal project clipped, please call the Extension Office to schedule a day and time.

### Lost Tags

If your animal project has lost a county or State Validation tag, be sure to contact the Extension Office or your respective AST immediately to secure a replacement.

### Major Show Exhibitors

Remember to book hotel rooms. They have tendency to fill up quick so don't wait until the last minute. You will be receiving an Exhibitors letter in January with important updates and reminders as well as a list of other exhibitors from the county for you to coordinate travel arrangements with. If you have specific questions, please call.

### Livestock Show Links

Kerrville - [www.hcdjls.org](http://www.hcdjls.org)

Ft. Worth - [www.fwssr.com](http://www.fwssr.com)

San Antonio - [www.sarodeo.com](http://www.sarodeo.com)

San Angelo - [www.sanangelorodeo.com](http://www.sanangelorodeo.com)

Houston - [www.hlsr.com](http://www.hlsr.com)

Austin - [www.staroftexas.org](http://www.staroftexas.org)

### Project Visits

If you need help with your animal projects or have questions, I'll be glad to assist you. Please call the Extension Office to schedule an appointment. Also, in the coming months I'll be traveling to several breeders looking at show cattle prospects. If you would like for me to help you find a calf, let me know.

### Livestock Equipment

Clippers, scales and other livestock equipment are available for check out from the Extension Office for a small fee. Please call in advance to reserve equipment.

### School Excuses

Remember, it is your responsibility to contact the Extension Office in advance for school excuses. We need at least 10 days notice. You will be eligible for excuses competing through any 4-H project or activity provided you are passing all your classes. As always, if you know you will miss school, make sure to alert your teachers and get assignments early if possible.

### Character Education

What exactly is character education? Many times we hear people reference it but seldom do we stop and think about the true meaning. In my opinion, character defines the combination of qualities or features that distinguishes one person, group, or thing from another. Character skills can be developed through day to day behavior. A person's character is also demonstrated by how they act. As I think about the six pillars of character and their relationship to animal projects, the following comes to mind.

- \* Trustworthiness - animals depend on caretakers
- \* Respect - treats and handles animals correctly
- \* Responsibility - feeds and waters animal daily (even on busy, difficult days)
- \* Fairness - feeds only approved rations and uses only approved drugs
- \* Caring - keeps the stall and the barn clean
- \* Citizenship - accepts winning or losing with grace, helps others at the show

I would encourage each of you to really think about the six pillars of character and how they not only relate to your animal projects but life in general.

