Good Afternoon Gator Nation!!!

Newsletter is running a little early this week. I will not be at the barn this evening as I am departing for Fort Worth. If you need to contact me between now and Monday 1/22 I will be available by phone/text and e-mail. There is a great deal of activity, and from here it only gets busier. Here are our updates for the week:

* **Breeders / Jocks / Fitters**
* **Animals out of the Barn**
* **Teacher Absences**
* **HLSR Tours**
* **GCF&R Ag Mechanics Entries**
* **CDE (Career Development Event) Teams**
* **Vet Science CDE**
* **Winter Showdown**
* **GCF&R Volunteer Days**
* **GCF&R Scrambles**
* **FFA Banquet Committee**
* **AET Thursdays**

**Activity Calendar**

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**FFA Meeting / Specie Clinic / Stock Show Calendar**

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**Weather**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  | **1/19**  32° / 53° | **1/20**  37° / 47° |
| **1/21**  50° / 52° | **1/22**  59° / 64° | **1/23**  59° / 66° | **1/24**  56° / 67° | **1/25**  53° / 67° | **1/26**  49° / 63° | **1/27**  47° / 61° |

Much better than last week’s hard freeze. Nevertheless, KEEP THE DOORS CLOSED! We are finding them open, this must stop.

**Breeders / Jocks / Fitters**

With showtimes starting there will be a  heightened amount traffic in the barn with exhibitor’s Breeders, Jocks, and Fitters making visits. Please be sure and coordinate with your specie advisor if you have one of these persons making a visit to the facility. It is important that we maintain situational awareness and barn security, especially with the transition away from all of the construction traffic on the near horizon.

If you have breeders, jocks, or fitters coming in they must have paperwork on file with us.  We also need to verify their background checks are current, as these do expire on an annual basis. If you did breeder contracts last year, we will honor those, we just need to make sure their background checks with the district are up to date.

**Animals Out of the Barn**

This is just a reminder, though it is tedious, we need everyone to e-mail Mr. Robinson as well as at least one of your species advisors if you are taking your, *or any other animal* out of the barn for any reason. We have a lot going on with teachers taking exhibitors, people independently getting health papers, certificates of palpation, vet visits, etc.  We must have e-mail documentation of this. In the event that we are spot checked, if we have animals that are not on-site at time of inspection, you/your project could be disqualified from future competition. If that were to happen, the animal(s) by contract would have seven days to be removed from the facility. No one wants this, especially knowing that an e-mail could have prevented it. We know that this is a chore, but it is also a necessary one.

**Teacher Absences**

With Majors starting this week, we will have teachers leaving for shows in addition to exhibitors. If you need us for any reason, please reach out and let us know.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  | 1/18  Fort Worth  Robinson | 1/19  Fort Worth  Robinson | 1/20  Fort Worth  Robinson |
| 1/21  Fort Worth  Robinson | 1/22  Fort Worth  Robinson | 1/23 | 1/24  Fort Worth  Edenfield | 1/25  Fort Worth  Edenfield | 1/26  Fort Worth  Edenfield | 1/27  Fort Worth  Edenfield |
| 1/28  Fort Worth  Edenfield | 1/29 | 1/30  Fort Worth  Robinson | 1/31  Fort Worth  Robinson | 2/1  Fort Worth  Robinson | 2/3  Fort Worth  Robinson | 2/3  Dickinson Winter  Showdown |

**HLSR Tours**

Though it’s a month away, we have a date set for our Tour Guiding date at HLSR! Our contest we be on Wednesday, 28 February. A couple of items we need all participating to be aware of:

1. You must be in Official FFA Dress               Ladies: no skirts, black pants, white collared shirt/blouse, black closed toed shoes, FFA Scarf

Gentlemen: black pants, white collared shirt, black boots / shoes, FFA Tie, no hats.

**SHOES / BOOTS MUST BE ALL BLACK**

1. HLSR Is moving away from cash                  Plan on bringing a card to make any purchases on site.
2. Indemnity Form                                                In order to participate you must have an HLSR Indemnity Form. We will have these at the next meeting / in our classrooms. You must have one completed to be allowed to load up to go to rodeo on the day of

competition.

**GCF&R Ag Mechanics Entries**

Anyone wishing to enter an Ag Mechanics Project in the this year’s Galveston County Fair, the deadline for paperwork & payment is 2/20/2024. If you are interested or have questions, please reach out to Mr. Menotti or Mr. Edenfield.

**CDE (Career Development Event) Teams**

Below are the teams being coached this semester. See the corresponding Ag Teacher for more information

Ag Sales- Ms. Cook

Applied Agricultural Engineering- Mr. Menotti

Farm Business Management- Mrs. Sizemore (Ball)

Horse Judging- Ms. Hastings

Livestock Judging- Ms. Rocha

Milk Quality- Mr. Robinson

Poultry- Mr. Edenfield

Range- Mr. Edenfield

Veterinary Science- Ms. Coppola

Wildlife- Ms. Murphy

**Vet Science CDE**

A cat holding a person

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**Winter Showdown**

February 3-4 Galveston County Fairgrounds

We’re still in need of sponsorships and donations to cover the cost of the show!

Get $500 in sponsorships by January 19th to be able to attend the HLSR Tours day on Feb 28

Ask an FFA Officer or Ag Teacher for more information

**GCF&R Volunteer Days**

All students (not just AG/FFA kids) are eligible to volunteer for up to 3 days during the Galveston County Fair, April 15, 16, & 18. Eligibility for volunteer days are as follows:

Must be Academically Eligible

Must be in grades 5-12

Must attend 1 of the mandatory meetings at the fairgrounds. Must be on time. Late arrivals will not be allowed entrance

Thurs. February 1st @ 7PM

Mon. February 26th @ 7PM

Any students who volunteer any of the 3 days must provide their own transportation to and from the fairgrounds.

**GCF&R Scrambles**

ONLINE APPLICATIONS ONLY:

Open from February 1st through February 28th, 2024 using the

“SCRAMBLES” LINK on the [www.galvestoncountyfair.com](http://www.galvestoncountyfair.com) website

**FFA Banquet Committee**

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**AET Thursdays**

Online recordbook keeping system for students in Agriculture

Students with 3 years in FFA are eligible to earn their Lonestar Degree and attend the Texas FFA State Convention

Best to start NOW!

Meet in H103 after school on Thursdays. You can also come during Gator Time

Major season is here. Best of luck to all of our exhibitors, safe travels up and down the Texas highways. As a reminder, especially as hectic as things are about to get, e-mail is the best way in contacting any of us. Please let us know if you need assistance or have questions, and as always,

**GO GATORS!**

A cartoon of a crocodile

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**Very Respectfully,**

**Mitch Robinson**

**Ag Science Teacher / Barn Manager**

**Dickinson High School - Dickinson ISD**

P.O. Drawer Z

Dickinson, TX  77539

281-229-7858

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