

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS** SECTION PAGES 4-H Headlines D Agriculture Horticulture Family & Community Health Calendar of Events 0-11 OLEASE JOIN US FOR × Christmas Open House 5:00 PA TUESDAY DECEMBER 16 200 165 EAST 6TH STREET #104 | RUSK CHEROKEE COUNTY TEE December 1st 22nd 9:00-3:00 Hand crafted Christmas gifts and home baked goodies. Stop in for a cup of Christmas Wassail and take a look . All proceeds will go towards the Cherokee

County 4H Scholarships.

CHEROKEE 5 AGRILIFE NEWS



# 4-H Headlines

Kaítlyn Slover, Cherokee CEA-4-H/YD kaitlyn.slover@ag.tamu.edu

Wow - these last few months have come and gone! It is hard to believe we're already thinking about Thanksgiving and soon Christmas! Now is a great time to be reflecting on the 4-H projects we have already began and start working on our Spring projects. If you haven't already, be sure to write down your goals for the 2022-2023 4-H year so we can reflect back on them in our record books. I hope everyone has a safe and blessed holiday season! Kaitlyn

## Cherokee County Junior Livestock Show

December 1, 2022 Entry Deadline for the following: Market Steers, Non-Registered Heifers, Miniature, and Registered Heifers, Dairy Heifers, Pen of Commercial Heifers, Market Hogs, Poultry, Horses, Goats, and Lambs entry forms and fees are due. A summary report is to be printed and mailed in with the entry fees. (Photographs are required with horse entry forms) Late entry: 12/02/22-12/08/22 until 10:00 AM – additional late entry/validation fee of \$15.00 per entry.

December 10, 2022 VALIDATION DATE (except for Rabbits, Poultry, and Ag Mechanics) at the Show Barn from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM. Validation will consist of ear tag/or tattoo placed/verified by the validation committee and is required on all sale eligible division animals. County will allow state validation numbers in lieu of physical county validation. Pen of Commercial Heifers will be validated at Bolton Cattle Company. \*\*All projects must be in the daily care of exhibitors upon the completion of validation\*\*

## **Gold Stars**

Cherokee County 4-H members, Jackson Dowling of Bluebonnet 4-H and Shelby Gray of Iron Rails 4-H, have earned Gold Star recognition for their dedication and accomplishments in local 4-H programs.

The Gold Star is the highest achievement award for 4-H at the county level, and those earning the designation must be at least high school freshmen and must have participated in 4-H for at least three years. Those considered for the award must submit a program record book, must complete projects in at least three different areas and must have participated in activities in at least one of the following areas: educational presentations, citizenship activities, 4-H projects, project exhibits, camps, leadership labs and public relations.

## Jackson Dowling



Jackson has been an outstanding Cherokee County 4-H member for 10 years. He is dedicated, responsible, reliable and exhibits strong leadership qualities and is the President of the Bluebonnet 4-H Club. Jackson constantly looks for ways to give back to his community and has a strong sense of civic duties. Jackson has participated in various projects throughout his 4-H career including poultry, rabbits, ag mechanics, hay judging and citizenship activities. His future plans include studying Electrical

Engineering. Jackson is the son of Cody Dowling and Jaleea Downs.

## Shelby Gray



Shelby has been an outstanding Cherokee County 4-H member for four years. Because of her positive attitude and work ethic, she is a great role model for other youth in 4-H. She has done many projects over the years, including photography, food and nutrition, and community service, but her main project and passion is livestock. Shelby is also the President of the Iron Rails 4-H Club. She plans to go to college and major in Agriculture Business. Shelby is the daughter of Tracy and Cynthia Stewart.

## **Cherokee County 4-H County Roundup Success!**

### Food Show Participants

Juniors - Tucker Fulton, Easton Hudson, Liliana Mims, Avery Reuter, Kensley Stewart, Ashlynn Wells Intermediates - Jahn Avalos, Ashley Castillo, Bryan Martinez, Emely Porras, Cody Reuter, Tonya Huerta, Keelee Wilcox Seniors - Berenice Aguilar, Karem Aguilar, Zoe Childress, Shelby Gray, Jennifer Mendoza

### Food Show Participants Advancing to District 5 Competition

Juniors - Easton Hudson, Kensley Stewart, Avery Reuter Intermediate - Bryan Martinez, Emely Porras, Cody Reuter, Keelee Wilcox Senior- Berenice Aguilar, Karem Aguilar, Zoe Childress, Shelby Gray

Horticulture ID - Top 3 Placings in each division (we had about 10 kids in each division!)

Clover Kids 1st - Barron Reuter 2nd - Hazel Crowley 3rd - Easton Koop

Junior 1st - Liliana Mims 2nd - Reagan Underwood 3rd - Easton Hudson

Intermediate 1st - Raina Powell 2nd - Cody Reuter 3rd - November Hazel

Senior 1st - Kiera Vietch 2nd - Tava Hazel 3rd - Addie Vickers

**Ag Product ID** - Top 3 Placings in each division (also about 10 in each division!)

Clover Kids 1st Barron Reuter 2nd - Hazel Crowley 3rd - Easton Koop

Junior 1st - Easton Hudson 2nd - Tucker Fulton 3rd - Avery Reuter

Intermediate 1st - Cody Reuter 2nd - Keelee Wilcox 3rd - Desmen Wells

Senior 1st - Tava Hazel 2nd - Zoe Childress 3rd - Addie Vickers







## 4-H Calendar

November

11/17 - Cherokee County 4-H Livestock Judging Meeting, 6pm

### December

12/1 - CCJLS Entries Due 12/2 - District 5 Food Show 12/10 - CCJLS Validation 12/10 - Winter Classic Jackpot Show

### January

1/7 - Branded by Christ Coverall Classic Jackpot Show

1/17 - Fort Worth Stock Show - Jr. Dairy Cattle 1/21-2/23 - Fort Worth Stock Show - Jr. Beef Cattle

1/22-1/23 - Fort Worth Stock Show - Jr. Goats

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## Breakfast CEU Series

Those in need of CEUs for their TDA Pesticide License can join us each month for our Breakfast CEU Meetings. Each

meeting will be a "Dutch treat" breakfast and those in attendance will receive one hour of pesticide CEU credit.

There will be a one-time \$10 fee for attending the yearlong Breakfast CEU Series.

The following dates, times and locations have been set. (Please note the 7 a.m. start time for the November meeting.)

November 15th 7:00 a.m. December 20th 6:30 a.m. January 17th 6:30 a.m. Miss Mollie's Diner, Alto Beverly's Café, Jacksonville Cherokee Co Ext Office, Rusk

Aaron Low • Cherokee CEA-Ag/NR • arlow@ag.tamu.edu

## East Region AgriLife Conference & Expo

Friday, January 13, 2023 Cross Brand Cowboy Church 11915 FM 2015 | Tyler, TX 75708

5 TDA CEUs and 6 Structural SPCS \$10 Online Registration Fee before January 12th (plus \$0.50 convenience fee) https://form.jotform.com/222774694024157

\$15 On-Site Registration Fee

Cash/Check or Credit/Debit cards (5% convenience fee for cards)

7:15-8:00 a.m. Registration & Visit Vendors

8-9:00 a.m. Termite Identification & Control

9-9:15 a.m. Break & Visit Vendors

9:15-10:15 a.m. Pesticide Laws & Regulations Update

11:15 a.m.—12:15 p.m. Pesticide Safety

12:15-1:15 p.m. Lunch & Visit Vendors

1:15-2:15 p.m. Disease in Turf & Bermuda Grass

2:15-2:30 p.m. Break & Visit Vendors

2:20—3:30 p.m. Water X Weeds: An Approach to Integrated Weed Management

For more detailed information please click the following link: <u>https://cherokee.agrilife.org/event/2023-east-region-agrilife-</u> <u>conference-expo/</u>

## New Publication to Help Ranchers Manage Risks

Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University (AFPC) released a publication to help ranchers address potential risks.

"Agricultural producers face a litany of risks, from natural disasters to market forces that are far beyond their control," Bart Fischer, AgriLife assistant professor and co-director of the Agricultural & Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University, said. "At the moment, over half the United States is facing some level of drought, and the cost of inputs have wreaked havoc on agricultural producers over the past year. Unfortunately, in particular, livestock producers historically have had few tools at their disposal for managing risk, largely relying on maintaining animal health and managing costs to stay afloat, in addition to limited use of futures and options."

The new publication, Where's the Risk?: A Livestock Risk Management Handbook, was authored by Fischer. Co-authors were Justin Benavidez, assistant professor and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service economist at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Amarillo, and Amy Hagerman, assistant professor and Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service specialist at Oklahoma State University.

Fischer noted future options, exchange-traded contracts that provide price protection for ranchers, is one risk management option.

"While use of futures and options by cattle producers continues to be quite low, a number of other risk management tools have been made available to livestock producers," Fischer said. "In this handbook, we endeavor to provide an overview of those tools."

He said while most of these tools are broadly applicable to a number of different species, the focus primarily is on cattle.

"And because livestock ownership and forage production often go hand in hand, this handbook covers both topics," Fischer said. The publication includes information on the futures markets, which provide buyers and sellers of commodities with the opportunity to establish prices for future delivery.

The 47-page publication includes programs offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency, the USDA's Risk Management Agency and risk management using the futures market

The publication also includes a checklist for ranchers to use in evaluating the various options at their disposal.

"Our hope is that producers will take the opportunity to avail themselves of the litany of tools that are available," Fischer said.

Download it here: <u>https://afpc.tamu.edu/extension/resources/livestock-book/wheres-the-risk-a-livestock-risk-management-handbook.pdf</u>

## Cherokee County Hay Judging, Show & Sale a Success!

Roughly 125 people were in attendance for our Annual Hay Show & Auction on October 25th at the Cherokee County Expo in Jacksonville. A big thank you goes out to our meal sponsor, Heritage Land Bank, for serving everyone some delicious burgers!

We received a total of 62 hay samples this year and auctioned off 23 blue ribbon samples.

This year's Grand Champion Hay Producer was Weldon Cook of Jacksonville with a hay sample testing at 20.43% crude protein. Heritage Land Bank of Tyler purchased the winning bale.

Reserve Champion went to Ronnie Jones of Rusk with a hay sample testing at 16.56% crude protein and was purchased by Tri-County Livestock Market.

Our top buyers for 2022 were: Heritage Land Bank—Tyler Lowe Tractor Brandie Garner—Cherokee County Farm Bureau Insurance Tech-Line Tri-County Livestock Market Wayne Berry Steele's Feed & Fertilizer Service Heritage Land Bank—Palestine Cherokee Warehouse United Ag & Turf

A huge thank you to all of our supporters & hay producers! This year's auction raised right at \$19,000 for our scholarship fund.

We also recognized our top 3 FFA and 4-H Junior Hay Judging Teams on Tuesday night. A total of 122 FFA and 4-H members in Cherokee County participated in our Junior Hay Judging Contest on October 19th.

Rusk FFA was recognized for having the Top 3 Hay Judging Teams at the 2022 Cherokee County Hay Judging Contest as well as for having the 1st place High Point Individual. Those recognized are listed below:

Page 5 1st High Point Individual receiving a \$1,000 scholarship: Ella Morton

1st Place FFA Team: Rusk FFA Ella Morton Jackson Kinney KayLynn Morris Wesley Martin

2nd Place FFA Team: Rusk FFA Ty Glover Morgan Loden Jeremiah Hill Kristy Martinez

3rd Place FFA Team: Rusk FFA Hayden Dyess Timothy Bouford Xavier Torres Shane Ball

In the 4-H Division, Bluebonnet 4-H had the 1st Place Team and High Point Individual. Those recognized in the 4-H Division are listed below:

1st Place High Point Individual receiving a \$1,000 scholarship: Jackson Dowling

1st Place 4-H Team: Bluebonnet 4-H #1 Jackson Dowling Jacob Dowling Kiera Vietch

2nd Place 4-H Team: Cloverleaf 4-H #1 Makenzie Low Mason Holmes Eli Middleton Halle Duplichain

3rd Place 4-H Team: Bluebonnet 4-H #2Cooper DowlingGavin HasselCody ReuterAvery Reuter



## Garden of Learning



## Cherokee County Horticulture Newsletter

Kimberly Benton, County Extension Agent–Horticulture kim.benton@ag.tamu.edu

## YOUR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER GARDEN CHECKLIST:

- Don't forget to give your landscape a steady amount of water, through irrigation or by hand, if there is not adequate rain.
- As soon as the November weather appears to be settled, it is time to select and plant such annuals as pansies, violas and ornamental cabbages and kale.
- Plan now for your spring flowering season with a mixture of annuals and perennials.
- Don't get in a hurry to prune woody plants. Late December through February is usually the best time to ٠ prune them.
- Place orders for seeds this month so you will have them available when you are ready to plant. By ordering early, you will be more certain of getting the varieties you want. In addition to ordering seeds that you are already familiar with, try a few new kinds each year to broaden your garden contents.
- November through February is a good time to plant trees and shrubs. In the Panhandle, planting is often delayed until February or early March.
- Bring in late-blooming plants such as decorative kalanchoes or Christmas cactus so they may finish flowering in the warmth of the house.
- Reduce the fertilization of indoor plants from late October to mid-March. An exception would be plants in an atrium or a well lighted window.
- Drain gasoline from power tools and run the engine until fuel in the carburetor is used up. ٠
- Drain and store garden hoses and watering equipment in a readily accessible location. The lawn and plants • may need water during a prolonged dry spell.
- Continue to set out cool-season bedding plants, such as pansies, violas, stock, snapdragons, and dianthus.
- Prepare beds and individual holes for rose planting in January and February. Use composted manure, pine bark, and similar materials mixed with existing soil.
- Use good pruning practices when selecting Christmas greenery from landscape plants. Don't destroy the natural form and beauty of the plant.
- Prolong the life of holiday-season gift plants by providing proper care. Check to see if the pot wrap has plugged up the bottom drainage. Don't overwater. Keep out of drafts from heating vents and opening doorways. Fertilizer is seldom needed the first few months.
- Take advantage of good weather to prepare garden beds for spring planting. Work in any needed organic matter, and have beds ready to plant when needed.
- Don't forget tulip and hyacinth bulbs in the refrigerator. They can be planted any time in December if they have received 60 or more days of chilling.
- Want to start cuttings of your favorite Christmas cactus? As soon as it has finished blooming, select a cutting with 4 or 5 joints, break or cut it off, and insert the basal end into a pot of moderately moist soil. Place it on a Exciting Educational Series! windowsill or other brightly lit area. The cuttings should be A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF GARDENING rooted within 3 to 4 weeks.
- Don't spare the pruning shears when transplanting barerooted woody plants. Cut the tops back at least one-third to one-half, to compensate for the roots lost when digging the plant.
- Take advantage of bad weather and holiday time to study seed and nursery catalogs as well as good gardening books.

And don't think the garden loses its ecstasy in

winter. It's quiet, but the roots are down there riotous. —Rumi

## Nov 14th at 6:30 p.m. Native Plants

Program is available both in person and via zoom.

Contact the Extension Office for

information about registering each month to receive the zoom link.

Prior months zooms are available on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/ **UCjtLDiejSMklRiygECJiLig** 

## 2022 Scarecrow Trail

Thanks to all entries for the 2022 Cherokee County Master Gardener's Scarecrow Trail benefiting HOPE Jacksonville . It was a great success with about 35 entries. And thanks to all who came out to vote. The judged winners were:

#1 'Rodeo Star' by Elijah's Retreat#2 'Hammock Tom' by Tom Caulkin#3 ' Country Singers' by Lookout 4-H

Honorable Mention:

'Calicrow' by Country Place Senior Living,
'The Crow Predator' by Westside Elementary Art Club
'LGA Annual 4th if July Fireworks Show by Lake Jacksonville Association The Peoples Choice Award went to 'Hammock Tom'.
Runners up were 'LJA 4th of July Fireworks Show' and
'Good Food, Good Fishing, Good Times by Lake Stryker Resort





Upcoming CCMGA Events January—March 2023—Master Gardener Training February 3rd—Cherokee County Seed Swap (the first Friday in February, annually) March 25th—Master Gardener Spring Conference

Cherokee County Master Gardener Association meetings are the 2nd Monday of every month, 9:30a.m., at First United Methodist Church in Jacksonville. Those meetings are open to the public and you are welcome to come by and say hello.

Stephanie "Amy" Walley

Cherokee Family & Community Health Agent

stephanie.walley@ag.tamu.edu





## Happy Holidays from our Kitchen to Yours

### **Sweet Potato Casserole**

*Sweet potato casserole is rich in flavor and low in fat.* Serves: 6

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons 1% low fat milk
- 1½ teaspoons brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup dry quick cooking oats
- 15 ounces of low sodium canned sweet potatoes, drained and chopped



#### Directions:

- 1. Preheat the oven to 350°F.
- 2. In a small bowl, combine milk, brown sugar, cinnamon, and oatmeal. Mix well and set aside.
- 3. Evenly spread sweet potatoes in a medium-size baking pan.
- 4. Add the oatmeal mixture on top of the sweet potatoes.
- 5. Bake for 20 minutes. Serve hot or refrigerate and serve cold.

Nutrients Per Serving: 94 calories, 1 g total fat, 0 g saturated fat, 0 mg cholesterol, 30 mg sodium, 21 g carbohydrates, 3 g fiber, 5 g total sugar, 1 g added sugar, and 2 g protein

Recipe and photo source: MyPlate Kitchen, <u>https://www.myplate.gov/myplate-kitchen</u>



During the month of August, we visited the schools in Cherokee County for their Open House events and shared program information. We held two car seat checkup events on two campuses and distributed seats to families. The following are some numbers from our events.

- 83 child safety seat inspections conducted
- 77 new seats issued.

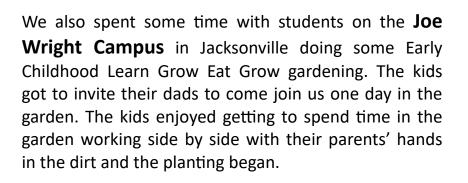
The proper use of child safety seats reduces the risk of injury and death, leading to reduced medical costs, avoidance of lost future earnings, and improved quality of life. These economic benefits are an estimated \$2,441 per child age 0 to 4 and \$2,921 per child age 4 to 7 for new seats distributed, and \$695 per child for seat misuse corrected with an assumed 75% continued use. Based on this formula, the total economic impact for the 83 inspections in August is \$186,979.

For information on scheduling a Car Seat Check Up Event please call the office at 903-683-5416.

## **Area School Happenings**

We have spent some time with students at New Summerfield ISD doing some fall gardening. The kids have had hands on as well as classroom activities, preparing and planting the gardens. Oh and of course harvesting and eating their crops.





Learn Grow Eat Grow Fall Gardening 2022





New Summerfield ISD has teamed up with a Texas A&M AgriLife Institute for Advancing Health Through Agriculture and Cherokee County AgriLife to participate in a "Strong Teens for Healthy School Change Club"



**Family Night Walk** Across Texas







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### November

- 11 CEO Closed—Veterans Day
- 12-13 East Texas Show Star Series, Henderson
- 14 A Year in the Life of Gardening: Native Plants, CEO—Rusk and Zoom
- 14 CCMGA Meeting, First United Methodist Church, Jacksonville
- 15 Breakfast CEU Series, Miss Mollie's—Alto
- 18 East Texas Beef & Forage Clinic (5 CEUs), Henderson
- 24-25 CEO Closed—Thanksgiving Holiday

### December

- 1 CCJLS Entries Due
- 1 Cherokee TEEA Country Store Opens, CEO
- 6 County Extension Office Open House
- 10 CCJLS Validation of Sale Eligible Animals Excluding Rabbits
- 20 Breakfast CEU Series, Beverly's Café—Jacksonville
- 22 Cherokee TEEA Country Store Closes
- 23 CEO Closed—Christmas Holiday
- 26 CEO Closed—Christmas Holiday

### January

- 2 CEO Closed—Christmas Holiday
- TBA Cherokee County Master Gardener Training
- 13 East Region AgriLife Conference & Expo, Cros Brand Cowboy Church—Tyler
- 17 Breakfast CEU Series, County Extension Office-Rusk

### Cherokee County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office | PO Drawer B | 165 East 6th Street #104 | Rusk, TX 75785 903.683.5416 | <u>cherokee.agrilife.org</u> | <u>facebook.com/cherokeecotxext</u>

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## BRANDED BY CHRIST COVERALL CLASSIC

TOMMY MCDANIEL RUSK COUNTY YOUTH EXPO JANUARY 7, 2023 ARRIVAL/REGISTRATION @ 6:30-8:30 A.M. SHOW BEGINS @ 9:30 A.M.

#### MARKET LAMBS/GOATS

RING A JUDGE: JIMMY KEY

RING B JUDGE: CHRIS DREWS

### MARKET HOGS

RING A JUDGE: BEN MOYER

RING B JUDGE: KYLE KNAUTH

VHITE OPB. DARK OPB. BERK, DUROC. HAMP. YORK, LIGHT CROSS (NO BLACK), DARK CROSS CATTLE Ring a JUDGE: EVAN WITTE ring b JUDGE: TAMMY FOOSE

STEERS WILL BE SHOWN BY DIVISION

HEIFERS WILL BE SHOWN IN 18 BREED FORMAT (LARGEST BREEDS)

BULLS WILL BE SHOWN IN RING B ONLY

\$60 2 Rings all species Includes showmanship \$10,000 in cash & Prizes Showmanship selection ring a showmanship drive ring b

> FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES SHOW SUPPLY TRAILER ON LOCATION BRIAN KINNEY: (003)-721-3347 LOSTU OLENSE (002)-258, 25720



## CLOTHING DONATION

#### Now until December 10th

Drop off donations with a Cherokee County 4-H Member or the County Extension Office at 165 East 6th Street #104 in Rusk

Youth Sizes 10 & Below

WARM ITEMS NEW WITH TAGS PLEASE!

DONATIONS WILL GO TO THE CHEROKEE COUNTY RAINBOW ROOM The Rainbow Room serves Cherokee County children who are removed from abusive or neglectful situations at home by the county's Child Protective Services staff. Organized by the Cherokee County Child and Family Welfare Board, the Rainbow Room is stocked by items that are mostly donated by the ditzens and businesses of the community, as well as, different programs through the Texas Community Partners and even other, larger Rainbow Rooms. The Child and Welfare Board asks, please, donate only brand new items to help these children make a brand new stort

a brand new start. Hap: L/r Comson provide again aggertanties in its programs and employment to all persons, regardness of raise, color, sec, religion, national organ, disability, ago, genetic information, venerae

### TRAIL TO CHRIST COWBOY CHURCH & CCJLS

Presents 2ND ANNUAL

## WINTER CLASSIC

SATURDAY DECEMBER 10, 2022

CHEROKEE COUNTY EXPOSITION CENTER, 611 TX-456 LOOP, JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS 75766

CHECK-IN FROM 9-11 AM~ SHOW WILL START AT 12 NOON

	Beef Show	Market Goat &	Swine Show	
	Judges:	Lamb Show	Judges:	
	Carter McClendon	Judges:	Madison Gartman	
8	Britt Owen	Jesse Lazenby	Chris Drews	
	2	Jimmy Key	8 Breed Format	
	<ul> <li>Heifer show by age &amp; breed</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>White OPB</li> <li>Dark OPB</li> </ul>	
	Broken by Top 3 Breeds and American, English & Exotic	<ul> <li>Shown by weight</li> <li>Broken by 4 divisions, Light, Medium, Heavy and Extra Heavy</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Berk</li> </ul>	
			Duroc     Hamp	
<ul> <li>Steers only broken by weights</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Steers only broken by weights</li> </ul>		* York	
/	110	1	<ul><li>Light Cross (no Black)</li><li>Dark Cross</li></ul>	/

Banners to Breed Champions, Class Winners

Ring B~ Buckle for Grand Champion. Prize for Reserve

Champion

\*Showmanship~ Pewee, Junior and Senior Division \$10 - Banners

Text or Call Ward McCown for Information 903-787-2244 All out of state livestock must have appropriate health papers



CHEROKEE COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE P.O. DRAWER B RUSK, TEXAS 75785 NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S.POSTAGE PAID RUSK, TX PERMIT NO. 5416