For more information about 4-H Projects, opportunities, programs, or activities, please call 817-884-1291 or visit us at 200 Taylor Street, Suite 500 (building entrance faces Burnett Street).

Cindy Bryant
County Extension Agent 4-H
Tarrant County 4-H

Contact Us:
Business Location
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http://tarrant.tamu.edu

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


**County Council & Adult Leader Meetings**

The 4-H Youth County Council meetings are open to 4-H members age 9 and older. Meetings provide opportunities for youth to meet, share ideas, plan, and implement activities with other youth throughout the county. Each club is encouraged to send 2—3 representatives to each meeting. Club representatives typically include the President and 1—2 Council Delegates.

The next County Council Meeting will be Monday, March 23, at 6:30 p.m. at the Extension office.

The Adult Leader Association meetings provide an opportunity for adult volunteers to meet, discuss ideas, and plan and implement activities that support the youth of the county. The next Adult Leader Meeting will be on Monday, March 23, at 7:15 p.m. at the Extension office.

**Fans in the Stands for Special Olympics**

Are you looking for a great opportunity to serve your community?

The Tarrant County 4-H Youth Council will be supporting the Special Olympics athletes as “Fans in the Stands” at the Opening Ceremonies of the spring games.

- **Date:** Friday, April 17, 2015
- **Time:** 6:00 pm (Tentative)
- **Place:** UTA Maverick Stadium, Arlington

In addition to cheering for these athletes as they make their ‘walk of honor’ around the stadium, the Youth Council will also be decorating posters for the event at their March 23rd Council meeting (poster board will be provided, but donations of markers and other appropriate decorations would be appreciated).

If you are interested in this opportunity, or have any questions, please send an email to twomble@verizon.net.

I look forward to seeing everyone there!!!

**Academic Eligibility**

4-H members are encouraged to “Make the Best Better” as they continue through the school year.

Remember to give each assignment your best effort and to manage your time wisely. In accordance with the Texas Education Agency policy and House Bill 72, a student must be passing all courses in order to compete in extracurricular activities (including 4-H).

For each competition, an academic eligibility form will be available from the 4-H office. Members will submit the form to their school’s office for eligibility status/signature and return it to the 4-H office.
Educational Presentations

The Educational Presentations contest provides an opportunity for youth to select a topic of interest, research, and prepare an educational presentation. Each presentation is usually 5-12 minutes in length and may include posters, slides, or visual props. Presentations may be made by individuals or age-division teams. This is an excellent opportunity for youth to practice their public speaking skills in a supportive, non-threatening environment.

In order to accommodate busy schedules, youth may select one of three presentation options.

Presentations may be made at the Extension office:

Tuesday, March 17, in the afternoon (2:00 pm) or Tuesday, March 17, in the evening (6:30 pm) or Video submission, due by March 16 (noon) - The video should be formatted to be viewable on a PC (Windows Movie Maker recommended) and saved to a DVD or USB.

Entry forms are due on March 6, and may be submitted by email or fax for your convenience.

County Photography Contest

Photography encourages communication through visual media. With the advancement of digital technology, participation in the 4-H Photography project has grown rapidly. Combining their knowledge and technical skills with their creativity, many youth produce high-quality photos that impact the audience in positive ways.

It is once again time for the annual Tarrant County 4-H Photo Contest. At the county level, for 2014-2015, we will adopt the state categories and judging criteria, but will submit the photo entries in print format. NEW for 2015: This year, the photos will be submitted to the Tarrant County Extension office as a non-mounted 8x10 photo print. Photos are due in the Extension office by Monday, March 16.

The rules and photo labels for this year’s contest can be accessed on the Tarrant 4-H website under Current Events.

State Photography Contest

Photos of senior age division members which receive 1st place in their category at the county contest qualify for advancement to the state-level competition.

Registration for the state competition will be conducted online, through 4-H Connect. Registration and entry will be open April 1—April 15. (NO late registrations) At the time of entry, contestants will upload the digital file of the winning photos.

Additional information and details are available at: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/statephotography/
4th “H” is for Health

The 4th H for Health Challenge is a fun way to promote healthy habits to 4-H’ers! The challenge is simple: Incorporate 15 minutes of physical activity, serve water, and if your club has snacks, make them fruits and vegetables. Track your activities using our 4th H for Health tracker and earn a special 4-H pin. Pins are available for FREE for a limited time and they’re now on the 4-H Mall. Good luck with the challenge, 4-H’ers!

http://www.healthykidshub.org/partner/enrichment

District IV Virtual Fishing Tournament

The purpose of this “virtual fishing tournament is simply to encourage 4-H members and families to go fishing. Please look over the rules below, scout out a good fishing hole, get your gear ready, grab a buddy, and wet your hook!

Rules:

1. All participants must be District IV 4-H members enrolled via 4-H Connect.

2. There will be 4 fishing dates: March 15, April 11, May 9, and June 13. Participants may enter in any number of the listed tournament dates. Members must be registered for the tournament before fish will be considered for official measurement.

3. There is a one-time $25 registration fee that covers entry for all dates. Registration will be open on 4-H Connect between February 19 and June 5.

4. Only bass will be considered for measurement. This is a catch and release tournament. 4-H members are expected to fish in an ethical and legal manner. All state fishing laws and regulations apply.

5. Participants may fish from any legally accessible lake, river, creek, or pond.

6. Boats are not a requirement. If fishing from a boat, all state laws apply and safety protocols should be reviewed before fishing.

7. Participants must submit a photo of their fish on a tournament date by 3 p.m. Texas time in order to be considered for awards. A common household item will be identified that must be displayed with your fish when you post a picture to the District IV 4-H Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/DIV4H). The item will be identified on the District IV 4-H Facebook page at least 30 minutes before each tournament date starts. You must measure your fish on a Check It Stick (pictured below). This is a measuring stick you can pick up at most sporting goods stores. To assist contest officials with crediting the correct measurements, please mention the member’s name and county in the comment of the post.
**District Event**

There will be a Duds two Dazzle workshop on **Saturday, April 18**, at the District 4 office (17360 Coit Rd., in Dallas). There will be two separate programs for the day.

The morning session (9:00 – noon) will be a workshop and mock contest for Juniors, Intermediates, and Seniors.

The afternoons session (1:15 – 3:15) will be a qualifying contest for Seniors. Winners of this contest will advance to state competition at State Roundup in College Station, in June.

Registrations for each program will be entered online through 4-H Connect, **March 13 – April 3**.

For additional information, please refer to [http://d44-h.tamu.edu/district-events/duds-to-dazzle/](http://d44-h.tamu.edu/district-events/duds-to-dazzle/)

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**County Food Fun Invitational**

There will be a Food Fun Invitational held at the Extension office on **Saturday, April 11**. It will follow the rules of the Food Challenge contest, but is non-qualifying (no advance contest). Teams of 3-5 youth will be allotted 40 minutes to create and prepare a food item which they present to the judges.

**Recipe Rally**

In the 4-H Recipe Rally, 4-H members are challenged with selecting, creating and/or altering a recipe and submitting a video of them demonstrating the preparation of the recipe. To participate, youth will submit their video entry online for a chance to be selected as a presenter at the Dinner Tonight with Texas 4-H Cooking School, held at the 2015 Texas 4-H Roundup. Recipes should be a healthy main dish that tie to the theme “Bringing Texas to the Table.” Please read the contest overview and guidelines (link below) for more details. **Entry deadline is April 1, 2015.**

[http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/healthy_lifestyles/](http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/healthy_lifestyles/)
Stock Show Results

- The 4-H office does not receive results from the major stock shows.
  If your child has participated, please email the results to us for placement in the upcoming newsletter.

Fort Worth Stock Show
Kyndle Cain - 7th place in Lightweight Finewool Sheep Division
14th place in Heavyweight Finewool Division
Anna Hibbets-Best of Breed and Best Opposite Fuzzy Lop Rabbit

San Antonio Stock Show
Dalton York - 7th place in Medium Wool; lot 208 in sale
Seth Chapman-3rd place in Lewis system division

San Angelo Stockshow
Dalton York– 3rd place Southdown
5th place Medium Wool
10th place Medium Wool

Calf Scramble

Most major stock shows provide an opportunity for some 4-H & FFA youth to participate in calf scrambles. Youth who catch a calf, halter it, and lead it to the winner’s area win a certificate which can be redeemed towards the purchase of a calf to be showed the upcoming year. They also have an opportunity to compete for additional scholarships.

Two 4-H youth caught calves in the 2015 Fort Worth Stock Show Scramble.

Congratulations to:
- Faith Dugdale
- Catherine Ott

Heartfelt Couture

Cheers to Bailey King for organizing the Heartfelt Couture project and to those who assisted by donating fabric for the drive.

With your help, she collected approximately 136 yards of fabric, which will allow Heartfelt Couture to create an estimated 90 hospital gowns and 40 pillows.

Bailey extends a sincere “Cheers and Appreciation” to all who showed support.
## District Photography Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First</th>
<th>Last</th>
<th>Photo Class</th>
<th>Age Division</th>
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<td>Blue</td>
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<td>Whitfield</td>
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<td>Junior</td>
<td>Blue</td>
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New Year’s resolutions are often joked about because they are easy to make, but not so easy to keep. Voyage 4-H members and parents resolved to “Walk Across Texas” in eight weeks starting January 1, and the goal was achieved by all. Walk Across Texas (WAT) is an eight-week free and fun fitness program designed for adults and youth with the goal to increase participants’ physical activity levels. Teams of six to eight log their miles of physical activity and each team tries to achieve at least 830 miles (the east to west distance across Texas) during eight weeks.

Walk Across Texas has now expanded to all of Tarrant County 4-H with the following teams currently walking across Texas:

- Straight Shooters 4-H Club
- Blossom 4-H Club
- 4-H Military Healthy Detectives Club

Participants completing the walk for Voyage 4-H include:

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<tr>
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<th>Alvarez</th>
<th>Sue</th>
<th>Cotton</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
Horse Validation

2015 Horse Validation will open on 4-H Connect March 1 through May 1.

March 1 – April 15 - $10 per horse

April 16 – May 1 - $20 per horse

All horses must be validated or re-validated with payment each year, to be eligible to show at District and State 4-H Horse Shows.

For more instructions on the process go to the 4-H website and click on Livestock.

Tarrant County Jr. Livestock Show Upcoming Dates

March 4, 2015  Market Rabbit Validation at 6 – 8 pm Boswell Saginaw Chisholm Trail FFA Barn

March 26-28, 2015  Tarrant County Junior Livestock Show and Youth Fair
Will Rogers Memorial Center Swine Barn

State Fair Lamb & Goat Tag Orders

Time is fast approaching to order ear tags for the 2015 State Fair of Texas 4-H/FFA Lamb & Goat Validation program.
The state deadline for tag orders has been moved earlier this year.

The deadline for tag orders and payment will be Monday, April 6. Tags will be $13 each. Please make checks or money orders payable to ELEC.

Please mail orders with payment to:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Tarrant County 4-H
Attention: Cindy Bryant
PO Box 1540
Fort Worth, TX 76101
4-H Equine Ambassadors

The Texas 4-H Equine Ambassador Program is entering its fourth year and the results have been incredible. Texas 4-H boasts robust horse project participation. For years, we were lacking an advanced leadership opportunities for youth interested in equine industry and science. In 2015, elite equine youth will gather in the heart of Texas horse country to participate in the most engaging youth leadership program with a focus on equine. Our hope is when they return from the course, you will find them to be eager to assist you with educational programs. County Extension Agents have been very pleased with the youth leadership provided by Equine Ambassadors at the county level. Equine Ambassadors have been very productive in assisting with equine related educational workshops and programs.

Program Highlights and Impact:

2014-2015 Equine Ambassadors report their service to an online reporting system. Since August 1, 2014:

- Service Hours: 1,095
- Educational Contacts: 10,918
- Program engagement
- County, District and State 4-H Horse Show Responsibilities
- Represent Texas 4-H on TV, Radio and at the Texas Capitol
- Making an impact in mentoring novice 4-H youth with horse projects
- NEW national and international travel experiences

2015 Texas 4-H Equine Ambassador Short Course:

Location: Lone Oak Ranch and Retreat, Gainesville Texas
Dates: June 28 – July 2, 2015
Cost: $250

Selection Criteria:

- Senior age (14-18) 4-H youth that have exhibited a superior level of ambition regarding his/her horse projects
- Students with a profound interest in equine science and the horse industry in Texas
- Students have shown advanced leadership qualities and a willingness to help others
- Top 25% class rank

Application Process:

- Applicant goes to https://agrilife.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_9Gg3J8XmcWsSFl o Student will complete the application and enter the contact information of supervising County Extension Agent
- CEA will be automatically emailed a recommendation survey
- A selection committee will review the applications and accept 25 participants for this course
- Applications are due May 1, 2015. Applicants will be notified by early June, 2015 regarding application result
The Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassador program strives to provide high school aged 4-H members the opportunity to develop and practice advanced leadership skills related to mentoring other youth, and to become advocates for animal agriculture.

**Leadership**

Students completing the requirements to become a Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassador become accountable to his/her County Extension Agent, their community and the program. Ambassadors must contribute 40 hours of service in presenting topics in agricultural advocacy, nutrition, selection, daily maintenance and care, showmanship, sportsmanship, preparing new 4-H families for show, and management of show animals during a livestock show. Additionally, the ambassadors teach livestock ethics and animal care to the novice 4-H families. An online reporting system allows the program to capture the educational efforts of the unique leaders. The results have been incredible.

**Knowledge**

Selected students are exposed to rigorous college level animal science. The “Short Courses” on the campuses of Texas Tech University and Texas A&M University are the settings where the educational experiences occur. Professors and Extension Specialists lead the students through the advanced curriculum. The professors provide questions contributing to the 200 question final exam the students must pass with an 80%. Purposeful construction of the curriculum; fused with a commitment to hands on learning have generated exceptional knowledge gained outcomes. Since 2010, 150 students have completed the exam, 149 have passed.

**Career Development**

The program exposes youth to a diverse array of career opportunities in degree programs from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M and the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at Texas Tech University. Testimonials were given regarding the power of a degree in agricultural education with respect to job interviews, placement and competition. Students make valuable contacts with people that offer assistance in career development. Industry representatives provide contact information to students and as Ambassadors they were granted unique access to leaders in Texas Agriculture through program activities. Below are outcomes regarding career development:

- In 2010, in a research study, students were tested on his/her livestock production knowledge before and after the short course. The exam was 100 questions, multiple choice and short answer. The average before was 49% and elevated to an outstanding 75% at the conclusion of the course. Further investigating knowledge gained students received a livestock production expertise instrument administered pre and post course.
- 93% of Livestock Ambassadors enroll in the college of agriculture
- 87% are interested in a career in agriculture
- “My experiences in the program will benefit me in agriculture or any other career”
- “This program changed my career path… I love agriculture more”
- The program plans on following the students through college as they enter the workforce.

---

For more information about Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassadors contact:
Billy Zanolini, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Extension 4-H Youth Development Specialist
4180 State Hwy 6 South
College Station, TX 77845
Phone: 979.458.0466
Email: wzanolini@ag.tamu.edu
We’re on the web, click on 4-H at http://tarrant.tamu.edu

March 2015

3  County Fashion Show
4  TCJLS Rabbit Validation
6  Educational Presentation Entries due
6  District Food Show & Food Challenge
7  Horse O Rama
16  Co. Photography Entries due
17  County Educational Presentations
23  County Council Meeting
23  Tarrant Adult Volunteer Meeting
26-28  Tarrant County Jr. Livestock Show

April 2015

3  Duds to Dazzle Entries due on 4-H Connect
6  Lamb & Goat Tag Orders for State Fair Due in Ext. Office
11  Food Fun Invitational
17  Fans in the Stands for Special Olympics
18  District Duds To Dazzle Workshop & Contest
21-24  District Entomology
24  County 4-H Spring Fling
25  Dist. Rifle/Shotgun Contest
27  County Council Meeting

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, services, or accommodation in order to participate in meetings or events are encouraged to contact Cindy Bryant CEA-4-H at 817-884-1291 ten days prior to the event.

Fort Worth, Texas 76101-1540
P.O. Box 1540
Tarrant County 4-H
The Texas A&M University System
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension