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
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, November 25, 2013, at 6:30 p.m.

Likewise, 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. Each club is encouraged to send up to 3 adults to serve as voting representatives. The next Adult Leader Meeting will be on Monday, November 25, 2013 at 7:15 p.m.

Youth Christmas Social

The annual 4-H youth Christmas social will be held on Friday, December 6th, at the County Extension office located at 200 Taylor Street, Ste. 500.

The party begins at 6:30, (Though you are free to come early and help set up!) and we will have a White Elephant Gift Exchange, an (Optional) 'Ugly Sweater Contest', games, food, and more!

Please bring a Potluck item and a gift for the White Elephant exchange (Under $5, please!) and be ready for fun!

Contact Amanda Roach at amandapossible@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions regarding the Social.

Fort Worth Stock Show Parade

The annual Fort Worth Stock Show Parade will launch the new Stock Show season on Saturday, January 18. 4-H Youth and Adults are encouraged us as we walk, wave & smile.

If you are interested in attending, please complete the Parade Release of Liability form and return to the 4-H office by December 20. (Fax: 817-884-1941) or Email: (nfswindle@ag.tamu.edu) w/c/c: to CPBryant@ag.tamu.edu.
County Food Challenge Contest

The 4-H Food Challenge is another fun way that 4-H members can exhibit their knowledge and skills while working as a team to create that “special dish”. Modeled after the Food Network’s “Iron Chef”, this contest challenges teams of 3-5 members to create a dish using a predetermined set of ingredients. There is always a lot of excitement and laughter as members build lasting friendships while working together as a team to meet the challenge.

Once again, TCU has graciously agreed to host the event for us.

County Food Show

The Tarrant County 4-H Food Show, where members showcase their food & nutrition entries, provides a unique opportunity for youth. In this contest, members prepare a favorite dish, display it, and tell the judges about it.

This contest will be held January 4, 2013 at the Extension office. Entries are due to the 4-H office by December 19, 2013.

Entry forms will be posted on the Extension 4-H website under Current Events.

Quiz Bowls

Quiz bowls are a fun way to display the knowledge and skills gained in a project area. Teams of 3 - 4 youth compete to be the first to “buzz in” and answer the question correctly. It is a fast-paced, fun-filled event.

District IV will be hosting quiz bowl contests on Saturday, December 14, in Terrell, TX.

Registration is due on 4-H Connect by November 22.

Three contests will be offered on December 14.
• Beef Quiz Bowl
• Horse Quiz Bowl
• Nutrition Quiz Bowl

Additional information and study materials for each contest are listed on the district website at: http://d44-h.tamu.edu/district-events/quiz-bowls/.
District Photography Contest

The District IV 4-H Photography Contest encourages self-expression and allows youth to demonstrate skills learned in the area of photography, including the use of photographic equipment and process of photographs.

This contest is NOT the qualifying contest for the state senior contest that will be held in the spring.

Each member may enter one photo per category for a maximum of 8 photos. All photos must be uploaded through 4-H Connect at the time of registration. Photographs should be taken at the highest resolution possible. Photographs must be in a .jpeg, .kpg, or .gif format. Files submitted may not be larger than 2,048 k (2MB). There is no minimum size requirement, however, your photograph must be large enough that it can be clearly evaluated for the contest (i.e. if it is too small, it can be disqualified.

District Photography Categories:
- 4-H Projects
- Farm & Ranch
- Fashion
- Food
- Leading Lines
- Panorama
- Shadow
- Silhouette
- Water (any form)

Each photograph will need to be clearly named with the Age Division, Category, County, and 4-H member's first and last name.

Entry deadline is November 22, 2013.

Consumer Decision Making Contest

Consumer Decision Making is a judging contest designed to teach kids to observe, compare and make consumer based decisions based on facts. 4-H'ers use their consumer knowledge to rank similarly based products to fit a given scenario. They learn to organize their thoughts and to defend their decisions in oral reasons. Each team is comprised of 3-4 members.

District IV follows the rules set forth in the Texas 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest Guide. Contestants will judge 5 classes from the current study guide (listed below) and one mystery class. Juniors will not give any reasons. Intermediates will give one set of reasons. Seniors will give two sets. This year's classes are as follows:
1. Fast Foods
2. Boots
3. Cookware
4. Outdoor Sporting Equipment
5. Printers
6. Mystery

The District IV contest will be December 14, in Terrell, Texas. Registration is due online, through 4-H Connect, by November 22.

Additional information for the District Contest may be located at:
http://d44h.tamu.edu/district-events/consumer-decision-making/
2014 Texas 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest

The topic for the 2014 essay contest is: Beekeeping in Colonial Times. All essays must be submitted electronically.

To the earliest European settlers in the New World, honey bees were an important part of their existence. Cargo manifests show that honey bees were among the first shipments of animals. How were they shipped? Why were they important? Why were they so important to the colonists? How does that differ from today?

The scope of the research is an essential judging criterion, accounting for 40% of your score. The number of sources consulted, the authority of the sources, and the variety of the sources are all evaluated.

The essay is due to Kyle Merten at kjmerten@ag.tamu.edu by January 10, 2014.

Please check out the 4-H website under Current Events for the application.

Virtual Volunteer Conference

This year, the Texas 4-H & Youth Development office will be providing several trainings online. All volunteers and Senior members are welcome to attend. During the month of November, trainings will be offered on November 7 and on November 12. Please refer to the Virtual 4-H Volunteer Conference website for additional information regarding sessions and login information.

http://texas4-h.tamu/volunteer_conference

Thursday, November 7
- Invitational Contests
- Teen Retreat
- Clothing & Textiles
- Consumer Decision Making
- 4-H Program Update
- Tax Filing
- Shooting Sports Opportunities
- Preparing to Apply for 4-H Scholarships
- Ag Product ID

Tuesday, November 12
- Tax Filing
- Preparing to Apply for 4-H Scholarships
- Quiz Bowls
- Ag Product ID
- Shooting Sports Opportunities
- Volunteer Award Opportunities
- 4-H Program Update
- Clothing & Textiles
- Invitational Contests
- Consumer Decision Making
- Teen Retreat

More Than You Ever Imagined!

4-H Cloverleaf
Leaders for Life

Congratulations to the Tarrant Leaders 4 Life team! They competed in the District 4 contest in Rockwall, where they received 1st place. This placing qualifies them to compete at the State Roundup in College Station this summer. Team members include: Rilie Hudson, Aiden Hudson, America Segovia, and Robert John Segovia.

One Day 4-H

Congratulations and Thank You to all of the youth and adults who participated in the One Day 4-H service events. Eleven 4-H Clubs in Tarrant County conducted 14 service-oriented events during National 4-H Week. The projects were youth initiated (planned and conducted by the youth) and included a wide array of service areas. While some participated in a variety of landscaping and beautification projects, others coordinated food and clothing drives for charitable organizations. Some chose to serve the elder generation by hosting and ice cream social and visitation days, and another club chose to serve special needs children and their families by offering a day on the farm with a petting zoo, carriage rides, and activities.

A total of 302 volunteers (295 members of 4-H, + 7 non-4-H) worked diligently in a day of service to the communities in Tarrant County. They provided 1,156 hours of volunteer service! Great job!

Clubs participating included:
- Blossom 4-H Club
- Countryside 4-H Club
- Eagle Mountain 4-H Club
- East Fort Worth 4-H Club
- Keller 4-H Club
- Poly High School FWAS 4-H Club
- Saginaw 4-H Club
- Straight Shooters 4-H Club
- Texas Wranglers 4-H Club
- Voyage 4-H Club
- Westside 4-H Club

Cheers

New Crop Pecans!

The Tarrant 4-H Adult Leaders Association is hosting a Pecans Sale. These fresh pecans are great in pies, cookies, and snacks, so plan ahead and place your order now for your holiday baking.

The Texas Pecan Halves will cost $11 per one pound bag.

To place your order, contact:
Twomble@verizon.net

Orders must be received by 11/15; estimated delivery date 12/5

Club Program
Speaker ????

“I pledge my health to better living....”

If your club is interested in a program on dental health & hygiene, you may contact:
Amanda at Archstone Dental
985-768-6732
4-H Opportunity Scholarship

Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program Opportunity Scholarships are ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS awarded each year to applicants based on their academic record, 4-H experience, and financial need (for scholarships for which it is a required criterion). The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Opportunity Scholarship Program is conducted in coordination with the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation, and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. All applications must be submitted through the applicant’s county Extension office and meet all criteria to be considered.

Approximately 225 academically-competitive scholarships will be awarded in the 2014 Texas 4-H Scholarship Program ranging in amounts from $1000 to $20,000 (amount established by donor). For the majority of the total scholarships and scholarship funds available, participation in a livestock show is not a requirement for consideration for an Opportunity Scholarship.

There will not be a 2014 SALE Rural scholarship.

4-H Opportunity Scholarship applications require the following attachments:
- Application
- High School Transcript
- Class rank and quartile rank
- GPA (numerical, based on 100 pt. scale)
- SAT or ACT Official Score Report copy
- FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR)
- Curriculum Degree Plan from college catalog

The due date for the Opportunity Scholarship to be turned in to the County 4-H office is January 22, 2013.

TEEA Scholarship

The Texas Home Demonstration Association was organized in August, 1926 by 399 women attending a Farmer’s Short course at A&M University. One of the purposes for organizing was to establish a scholarship for a deserving 4-H girl. This original scholarship of $200 has grown to 12 in 2002, given annually at $1000 each; however, in 1997, only four $1,000 scholarships were given due to lack of funds. Funding of these scholarships began with a 5 cent donation per member in 1926. Scholarships are now funded through the annual TEEA budget and awarded to a 4-H boy or girl.

The TEEA Application will be available soon on the Tarrant County 4-H website and will also be e-mailed out to members.

The application and the members record book are required to apply for this scholarship. These items are due to the 4-H office by February 15th.
Livestock News

TCJLS Important Dates to Remember

- Breeding Rabbit Date is November 22, 2013
- County Tag in is Saturday, December 14 (market animals and horticulture projects)
- Check with your Club Manager for your club's deadline
- Online Entries Deadline is Wednesday, January 8 (for club manager)
- Checks, ShoWorks Summary Sheet and Code of Conducts postmarked no later than January 9, 2014
- Rabbit Validation (market) / January 29, 2014 / 6 - 8 pm / BSCT Ag Barn / Cost will be $1.00 per rabbit validated.

TCJLS Broiler Orders

It is time once again to place your orders for broilers for the 2014 Tarrant County Junior Livestock Show. The orders are due on November 22, 2013. The cost is $1.75 for each broiler with a minimum order of 10. Please make your check payable to the Tarrant County Junior Livestock Association. NO CASH will be accepted, payment can only be made with a check or money order. Order form is located on the Tarrant 4-H website under Livestock News.

We anticipate delivery in the middle of January so make sure you provide us with a valid e-mail address so that we will be able to notify you of the specific delivery instructions when they become available.

Please contact Ken Johnson at kd-johnson@tamu.edu or 817-884-1946 if you have any questions.
Quality Counts Frequently Asked Questions

Our office receives many questions regarding Quality Counts verification for Livestock Shows. Hopefully, you will find the answers to your question in the following:

- How often must I be "verified"? Exhibitors only need to be verified once as a junior and once again as a senior. Junior is 8 and in the 3rd grade through 13 years of age as of the previous August 31st. Senior is 14 years or older as of the previous August 31st.

- How do I become verified? Pass the online test with 80% correct answers (8 out of 10)

- How many times can I take the test? As many times as necessary to achieve an 80% score

- What happens when I pass the test? You are given a Quality Counts verification number and the online system allows you to print a personalized certificate.

- What do I do with the Quality Counts verification number? Hold on to the number and use it when asked for by stock shows as a part of entry requirement.

- Can someone else use my number? No. The number is tied back to your name in the database available to stock shows, County Extension Agents and Ag Science Teachers. When the number is entered into the system, only your name appears.

- What happens if I forget/lose my number? Take the test again and get another number. You can become verified as often as needed.

- How do I learn the material needed to pass the test? All of the material is available online at Qualitycounts.tamu.edu and from there you can also access the online teaching system "Texas Trail". The online version will take 2 hours to complete and can be done at more than one sitting.

- Do I have to be “verified” to show? Check your stock show rules. Each show has different requirements regarding Quality Counts verification. This includes deadlines for verification and whether or not you must be verified to participate.

- Do I need a separate verification number for 4-H and FFA? When you take the test, if you selected both FFA and 4-H as your affiliated organizations, one number is all that is needed. If you are not sure what you selected, take the test again and select both organizations. This will insure that both your Ag Science Teacher and Your County Extension Agent can see that you are verified.

- Will Quality Counts Verification be needed for Breeding Entries? Yes. Quality Counts Verification will be needed for all Junior Livestock Show Entries at Major shows, including breeding animals.

- What about Judging Teams? No. Quality Counts Verification is only needed on Junior "Livestock" Entries. Contest not including an animal entry will not require verification.

Please contact Ken Johnson at kd-johnson@tamu.edu if you have any questions regarding Quality Counts or showing livestock.
We're on the web, click on 4-H at http://tarrant.tamu.edu

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.

November 2013

6  Major Livestock Show Entry Day
7  Virtual Volunteer Conference
9  Food Challenge
12 Virtual Volunteer Conference
18 District Photo Contest
22 Rabbit Breeding Date
22 TCJLS Broiler Orders due
25 County Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
25 Adult Leaders Meeting @ 7:15 p.m.

December 2013

6  Youth Christmas Social
14 TCJLS County Validation
14 Quiz Bowl Contests D-4
14 Consumer Decision Making Contest
20 FW Parade Release due