

### Impact Statements:

- 5.40" of rain falls during planting season
- Nearly 400,000 view Best of Show photo contest winner
- 2014 Summer Internship
- 75 youth participate in the Spring Junior Gardeners series

## Randall County

### Mission Statement

*Improving the lives of people, businesses, and communities across Texas and beyond through high-quality, relevant education.*

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin.

The Texas A&M University System,  
U. S. Department of Agriculture,  
and the County Commissioners  
Courts of Texas Cooperating.

### Agriculture & Natural Resource

J. D. Ragland—CEA

As one Randall County Producer said, "All the recent rain is a cow man's dream, but a cotton farmer's nightmare!" During the month of June, Randall County received a total of 5.40 inches of moisture. This puts us at 10.11 inches thus far for 2014. This compares to a sum total of 15.20 inches for 2013. Problem is, late May and June are extremely busy as most crops are planted during this time. Adverse weather, such as high winds, some hail, and cloudy cool weather with little sunshine caused newly planted crops to suffer and in some cases die. Cotton seemed to be affected the most. We examined many cotton fields assessing the damage. All issues were different but main effects were all based on timing of planting. Earlier planted fields received the most damage. The small plant growth stage could not withstand the high winds and its shallow root system caused root rot to develop. As the replanting window for cotton was closing, producers choose a variety of options. Some replanted to cotton, depending on herbicides applied, some replanted to sorghum while others planted summer forages. Additionally, the rainfall caused various weed species to rapidly emerge. Producer consultations provided recommendations of weed control products and application rates. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Randall County responded quickly to emerging replanting and weed control issues for the agriculture producers of Randall County.



### 4-H & Youth Development

Kim Peters—CEA



During the month of June, thousands of 4-H members, volunteers, parents, and county agents attend the Texas 4-H Roundup in College Station. This serves as the state contest for 4-Hers. Randall County 4-H made quite an impressive showing. J. D. and Kim, along with 20 youth and 13 coaches and parents attended to participate in 10 different events, ranging from Share the Fun – Interpretive Dance to Livestock Judging. Scholarships were awarded to Randall County 4-Hers, totaling \$17,000. The Range Grass ID team placed second overall. Another member placed 3<sup>rd</sup> with her Share the Fun – Interpretive Dance entry. One member placed in the top ten in the Livestock Judging contest. Abby McCarty was awarded two Best of Show entries in the Photography Contest in the "Animals – Wildlife" and "Digital Darkroom" categories. Abby's Digital Darkroom photo (pictured) was featured on the "Aggie Network" Facebook page to highlight Texas 4-H Roundup and went viral. To date, it has almost 400,000 views and countless comments (in many different languages) from people all over the world. This is not the first time Randall County 4-H has gone viral, and it won't be the last.

# Randall County



Kim Peters, JD Ragland, Shannon Walsh and Jackie Farrell

## Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Internship

Graham Henley—Intern



I started as an intern with the Randall county office June 2<sup>nd</sup> and it has already been an awesome experience. I am participating in this internship because of my interest in becoming an Extension Agent. I saw this internship as an opportunity to get a firsthand look at what to expect as an Extension Agent. Through my time with my supervising agent, JD Ragland, I have already participated in many aspects of the job. I keep in mind that these are only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the true measurement of the work and responsibility as an Extension Agent. I have been involved in many things from conducting research with test plots and Insect traps to judging record books and assisting youth events and contests. I have always had an interest in becoming an Extension Agent because of my involvement with 4-H and my Extension Agent at home. My Father was also an agent and he has always made it sound like a career I would enjoy. I received my Bachelor Degree in Ag Education at West Texas A&M University where I am currently pursuing my Masters in Ag Science. I hope to finish graduate school in December of 2014. After school I plan to pursue a career as an Extension Agent.

## Urban Outreach

Shannon Walsh—Urban Programs

The Junior Gardener Clubs have grown to three Canyon ISD elementary schools (Reeves-Hinger, Sundown Lane and Crestview) with over 75 youth participating. The weekly spring program is centered around teaching gardening skills and knowledge to build habits of healthy eating and outdoor activity for the youth. The youth enjoy both classroom instruction and hands on activities in the gardens. The youth plant and grow herbs, flowers and vegetables. Once the plants are mature, the youth are encouraged to replant them at their home to have a lasting reminder of the fruits of their labor. Program lessons are performed by Randall County Master Gardeners, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension—Randall County and Texas A&M AgriLife Research. Each club has significant support from CISD, parents and volunteers.



For more information  
contact your local  
County Extension Agent:

### JD Ragland

Agriculture & Natural Resources

### Jackie Farrell

Family & Consumer Sciences

### Kim Peters

4-H & Youth Development

### Shannon Walsh

Urban Youth

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