

Helping Texans Thrive in Randall County

EXTENSION AGENTS

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4-H Youth Development:

▶ The Randall County 4-H **Livestock Quiz Bowl Team** went undefeated in tournament play to secure the **National Championship** at the Western National Roundup in January. Cash Miller was named **High Individual**, and each team member was recognized in the **Top 5** individually.



- ▶ **29** youth participated in the six-week-long **Fashion and Interior Design** project. It included a community service project where the kids made and donated over **60** fleece scarves to the homeless at the **Guyon Saunders Resource Center**. Additionally, our members partnered with the **Golden Spread Quilters** on a sewing workshop where they created a complete quilt from scratch.
- ▶ Secured **\$6,000** in grants to provide the necessary equipment for quality youth programs in the areas of **Archery** and **Food & Nutrition**.

Agriculture & Natural Resources:

17 Randall County Producers attended the recent “Preplant Producers Meeting” held on January 24.

Topics included:

- 2023 Forage Sorghum & Wheat Trial Results
- Insect Outlook for Upcoming 2024 Growing Season
- Update on Newly Discovered “Late Season Corn Disease”
- Strategies to Consider for 2024 Dryland Cotton Production

Program results:

Producers indicated that *following* the program their *knowledge* had **increased 90%** when considering planting sorghum silage vs. grain production.



IMPACTS

- ▶ **89%** producers indicated they *most likely will adopt* forage sorghum soil sampling and fertilizer recommendations provided by AgriLife Extension.
- ▶ \$6,000 in grants for necessary equipment for Archery and Food & Nutrition.

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Family and Community Health:

- ▶ Adults participated in local cheese making workshop that focus on path to the plate education and an emphasis on the nutritional impact of less processed food items. Participants were able to receive hands on learning by breaking down milk proteins and making cheese from scratch and doing a nutrition analysis compared to instore products. Research shows that **making cheese at home is a health benefit** by eliminating preservatives and stabilizers that breakdown essential nutrients.
- ▶ Agent conducted an educational presentation on social media focusing on healthy meal preparations, nutrition and food safety. This method of education allowed individuals to view culinary techniques and understand the nutritional components of a meal. **This particular segment reached over 1,300 contacts.**
- ▶ **9.415 thousand** individuals reached through online education related to healthy meal preparation, nutrition and food safety. Check out *Dinner Tonight.tamu.edu* for more information!
- ▶ Quality volunteer's aid in implementing a vast education base and further build character models for our youth. This quarter, four volunteers received training on educational methods, child protection management, youth engagement and more. Also, 71% of Texas Extension Education Association members received training and materials to implement educational programs in the Randall Co. area

Horticulture:

- ▶ Winter is a great time for outreach for beekeepers!
- ▶ Palo Duro Bee Club members have been busy visiting classrooms in Randall and Potter counties to teach children about the importance of bees, the role of beekeepers, and the steps individuals can take to support pollinators.
- ▶ By engaging with students at a young age, beekeepers hope to inspire the next generation of beekeepers and advocates for honey bee conservation.



January — March 2024 County Interpretation

Better Living for Texans:

- ▶ During a **Walk N Talk** series, residents from *Creek Crossing Senior Village* come together to support each other towards developing healthy habits. Participants enjoyed doing moderate chair exercises with friends while discussing nutrition topics. Each week, a new fruit or vegetable was featured with a tasty sample of a simple yet nutrient dense recipe. This was an eight-week series with each session lasting 45-60 minutes.
- ▶ The **Learn, Grow, Eat and GO!** series is growing 49 students at *Gene-Howe Elementary School*. Students have completed weeks 1 - 7 where they have prepared for and planted a class garden with carrots, lettuce, and radishes.



Assistant Agent—Agriculture & Natural Resources

- ▶ Randall County had over 50 exhibitors show multiple Livestock Projects at 2024 Spring Majors with tremendous success across all species.

Here are a few Highlights from the Show Season.

Layton McMurphy—Reserve Breed Angus, Fort Worth; Haddie Tyson—Reserve Breed Duroc, San Antonio; Blakely Burns—Grand Champion Barrow, San Antonio; Makenna Cowley—Division 1 Champion Goat, San Antonio; Grayson McMurphy—Breed Champion Charolais, Houston



Urban Programs:

Egg Hatching in the Classroom

- ▶ 18 Classes in Amarillo and Canyon ISD's participated.
- ▶ Extension provides incubator kits and fertilized chicken eggs.
- ▶ During the three week incubation, Candling and Embryo presentations were conducted with 432 students.
- ▶ Campus locations included Carver ECA, Windsor, and Spring Canyon.



SPOTLIGHT

- ▶ 90 fertilized chicken eggs were incubated during Egg Hatching in the Classroom.
- ▶ 7 week program of Learn, Grow, Eat and GO! was conducted at Gene Howe Elementary.
- ▶ Over 50 exhibitors at the Spring Majors.



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