



COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT *Connection*

ISSUE 005 - SEPTEMBER 2023



SUMMER RECAP-BY THE NUMBERS

Horse Show

- 430 entries (class entries)
- 120 Horses, 88 students

Southeast District 8 4-H County Camp

- 245 Students
- 50 Adults

SURGE

- 96 Students, 21 adults

Record book Judging

- 255 books

COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
CONNECTION

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Dear County Extension Agents,

As the summer sun begins to wane, it's that exciting time of the year again - the start of a brand new 4-H year! With the promise of new opportunities, learning experiences, and personal growth on the horizon, it's time for us, the county extension agents, to guide and support our 4-H clubs and members in making the most of this upcoming year. Let's jump right in!

1. ****Set Clear Goals and Expectations:****

Before diving into the new 4-H year, it's essential to set clear goals and expectations with your clubs and members. Encourage them to think about what they want to achieve during the year and how they plan to get there. Whether it's completing a project, participating in a competition, or leading a community service initiative, having goals in place provides direction and motivation.

2. ****Revitalize Club Meetings:****

Club meetings are the heart of 4-H, and now is the perfect time to revitalize them. Encourage clubs to plan engaging meetings that include fun activities, educational components, and opportunities for members to take on leadership roles. Inject enthusiasm into every meeting to keep members excited and motivated throughout the year.

3. ****Explore New Projects:****

Encourage members to explore new 4-H projects that align with their interests and passions. From STEM and agriculture to arts and leadership, there's a diverse range of projects to choose from. Encourage them to step out of their comfort zones and try something new - it's an excellent way to learn and grow.

4. ****Leadership Development:****

The 4-H program is not just about acquiring knowledge but also about developing leadership skills. Encourage members to take on leadership roles within their clubs and organize events or initiatives in their communities. Provide them with guidance and resources to help them succeed as leaders.

5. ****Mentorship and Support:****

As county extension agents, we play a crucial role in providing mentorship and support to our 4-H members. Be approachable and available to answer questions, provide guidance, and offer resources. Connect members with experienced mentors who can help them navigate their 4-H journeys.

6. ****Plan for Success:****

Help your clubs and members plan for success. Provide them with tools and resources to manage their projects effectively, set timelines, and track progress. Encourage them to keep records and document their experiences - it's not only a valuable learning tool but also essential for recognition and awards.

7. ****Celebrate Achievements:****

Throughout the year, be sure to celebrate the achievements of your 4-H clubs and members. Recognize their hard work, dedication, and accomplishments at meetings, in newsletters, and on social media. Celebrating success builds motivation and pride.

8. ****Stay Informed:****

Finally, stay informed about 4-H program updates, resources, and opportunities. Attend professional development events, webinars, and conferences to enhance your skills and knowledge, which, in turn, benefits your 4-H community.

The new 4-H year is a blank canvas filled with endless possibilities for our clubs and members. As county extension agents, let's provide them with the guidance and support they need to make the most of this journey. Together, we can help our 4-Hers learn, grow, and thrive in the year ahead.

Happy Fall!

Thankful for you!
Megan

MEET YOUR COWORKERS

ANGIE NORS

1. **What is your official job title?**
 - a. CEA 4-H Youth Development, Hill County
2. **How long have you been in Extension?**
 - a. 8 years and 2 months
3. **What is your biggest program?**
 - a. Hatching in the Classroom
4. **What is your most favorite program?**
 - a. A Day in the Ring, Special Needs Stock Show
5. **Where did you go to college?**
 - a. Tarleton State University-Bachelors, Lamar University-Master's
6. **What is your degree(s) in?**
 - a. Bachelors of Science, Masters in Education
7. **Who makes up your immediate family?**
 - a. My Husband Randy, son Taylor and his wife Cecily, three grandchildren-Layne, Knox, and Rhet and my fur baby Merle (Australian Shephard) Parents-Ray and Becky Rogers, Brother and sis in law-Darryl and Ginger Rogers, Brother Eric Rogers and partner Jack Steinman
8. **What are you most passionate about?**
 - a. I am most passionate about being loyal and true to those closest to me. My circle is small but large in love and friendships.
9. **Are you an early bird or a night owl?**
 - a. I am not really either one. It depends on what is going on.
10. **When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?**
 - a. I wanted to be a veterinarian or a teacher when I grew up..
11. **What is the most fun part of your job?**
 - a. The most fun part of my job is getting to work with so many young people in different settings. I get to go into schools or host events with schools and see all of those youth learning about things from Hatching in the classroom, STEM, water education and different things ag related. I also get to see all of my 4-H kids and families at different events and times. They all have the opportunity to learn so much in so many ways. It makes my heart smile to see the smiles on their faces.



Hill Co

District 8 4-H
Making the best better



MEET YOUR COWORKERS

WARNER SEIDEL



- 1. What is your official job title?**
 - a. CEA- Agriculture & Natural Resources
- 2. How long have you been in Extension?**
 - a. I started in May of 2022 so almost 1.5 years
- 3. What is your biggest program?**
 - a. My Master Gardeners definitely take the cake on this one. We have around 75 active/intern Master Gardeners
- 4. What is your most favorite program?**
 - a. I would say it'd definitely be the youth natural resources programs
- 5. Where did you go to college?**
 - a. I graduated from the Texas A&M University in May of 2022 and I am about to wrap up my Masters at Tarleton in December
- 6. What is your degree(s) in?**
 - a. My Bachelors is in Animal Science and my Masters in in Agriculture and Consumer Resources
- 7. Who makes up your immediate family?**
 - a. Just me as of now but my mom, dad, and sister have been my biggest supporters along the way
- 8. What are you most passionate about?**
 - a. Natural Resources. I'm an avid hunter and fisher and definitely try to tie those into my work life. It's awesome to call the lake my office every once in a while.
- 9. Are you an early bird or a night owl?**
 - a. Night Owl without a doubt.
- 10. When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?**
 - a. I wanted to be an engineer until my first calculus class so I decided to be a veterinarian until chemistry and now I'm an agent!
- 11. What is the most fun part of your job?**
 - a. Getting to work with the youth of the county and seeing them grow to become leaders.

Hood Co



District 8 4-H

Making the best better

MEET YOUR COWORKERS

ERIN DAVIS

- 1. What is your official job title?**
 - a. County Extension Agent-Ag & Natural Resources, Freestone County
- 2. How long have you been in Extension?**
 - a. Almost 11 years
- 3. What is your biggest program?**
 - a. The Wildlife Workshop that I partner with TPWD & NRCS, held at Gus Engeling Wildlife Management Area
- 4. What is your most favorite program?**
 - a. The Freestone County 4-H Ambassador/Leadership Team
- 5. Where did you go to college?**
 - a. Casper College, Oklahoma Panhandle State University for undergrad & Oklahoma State University for Masters
- 6. What is your degree(s) in?**
 - a. Bachelor's in animal science , Bachelors in Agri Business & Masters in Agriculture
- 7. Who makes up your immediate family?**
 - a. My husband James and our 4 year old Daughter Maura
- 8. What are you most passionate about?**
 - a. Teaching others--whether its producers or youth, I enjoy guiding them with their goals and visions and helping them be successful.
- 9. Are you an early bird or a night owl?**
 - a. Neither really, but I would stay up late over waking up early
- 10. When you were a kid, what did you want to be when you grew up?**
 - a. Ag Attorney
- 11. What is the most fun part of your job?**
 - a. The one-on-one time with my 4-Hers, the car rides to contests, getting to know them more, asking the hard questions, having deep conversations, and blaring music. These experiences make the best memories.



Freestone Co

District 8 4-H
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4-H MEMBERS & CLUB MANAGERS



<h3>JANUARY</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Year! Fort Worth Stock Show Texas 4-H Scholarship due to specialist to review <p>Good time to check in with club officers and see how everyone is doing. Start the 2nd half of the year off with a bang!</p>		<h3>FEBRUARY</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> San Antonio Stock Show San Angelo Stock Show Texas 4-H Scholarship Due 4-H Day at the Capitol (in odd years) <p>Good time to plan a spring community service project</p>	
<h3>MARCH</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most County Contests will happen this month- Photography, Fashion, CDM District Registration opens for Horse Judging, Livestock, Meats, Soils, CDM, Fashion, Rifle, Leaders for Life, Roundup, Quiz Bowls <p>Good time to finalize those Presentations and Fashion Show entries!</p>	<h3>APRIL</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Contests: Rifle, Livestock, Meats, Horse, Soils, Leaders for Life, Fashion Show County Contests: Roundup Scholarships are announced Steer, Heifer, and State Fair tag orders are due National 4-H Conference National Volunteer Week Tractor Supply Spring Clover Campaign <p>Good time to start working on your Recordbook!</p>	<h3>MAY</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registrations due for: Horse Show, SURGE, District Council, Texas 4-H Roundup, SE D8 County Camp Scholarship Interview District Contests: Roundup Ag Awareness/Farm Safety/Water Days typically happen <p>Good time to finalize those recordbooks. Which summer camps are you going to?</p>	
<h3>JUNE</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Texas 4-H Roundup in College Station Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge District 8 4-H Horse Show in Belton District 8 4-H SURGE Southeast District 8 County Camp District Recordbook Entries due <p>Good time to enjoy your weekends! Club Charters are due July 15th.</p>			

4-H YEAR AT A GLANCE



4-H CALENDAR



NEW AGENT ONBOARDING



<h3>JULY</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Shooting Sports Games State Horse Show Club Charters due District Recordbook Judging State Recordbook Judging entry due Texas 4-H Congress (in even years) <p>Which summer camp are you going to? This is a great time to start setting your goals for the next year.</p>		<h3>AUGUST</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-H Banquets happen 4-H Enrollment begins on the 15th Entries due for State Fair, Abilene, Tyler Sheep & goat tag orders due <p>Meet with your new officer team and plan your new year!</p>	
<h3>SEPTEMBER</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big Enrollment Push! East Texas Fair West Texas Fair HOT Fair entries due Swine tag orders due Turkey orders due Foods Project kicks off-leader workshops <p>Encourage your friends to join in the fun of 4-H!</p>	<h3>OCTOBER</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Fair of Texas Heart of Texas Fair State Sheep & Goat Validation State Heifer Fall Validation National 4-H Week Major Broiler orders due <p>Good time to get a few livestock clinics in.</p>	<h3>NOVEMBER</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> District 8 Holiday Classic (Belton) County Food Show/Food Challenge District Foods entries due BIG Scholarship due D8 4-H Shooting Sports Coach Training Texas 4-H Scholarship open <p>This is a good time to check in on your project goals. How are they coming along?</p>	
<h3>DECEMBER</h3> <p>Scholarship Programs County Christmas Parties Final prep for a lot of county shows</p> <p>Good time to recharge, see your family, and prepare for the upcoming year.</p>			

4-H YEAR AT A GLANCE



A new 4-H year, brings a great time to put new plans in place! Check out this calendar of when things generally happen. Let me know if you would like this file.



District 8 4-H
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