

Extension At A Glance - Lubbock County

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Agriculture & Natural Resources / 4-H and Youth Development / Family and Consumer Sciences / Community Development

MISSION

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

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Horticulture

Christina Reid, County Extension Agent - Horticulture

• Smith Sprouts

This after-school gardening club program reached 40 youth in September. Smith Sprouts offers a variety of hands-on learning activities to engage students in environmental stewardship, horticulture, and nutrition.

• Lubbock Master Gardener Demonstration Garden

The Lubbock Master Gardener Association has completed the first phase of the open to the public Demonstration Garden: Raised Beds. The Demonstration Garden is located at the Lubbock Memorial Arboretum (4111 University) and will be used as an outdoor classroom and allow public access to gather ideas. LMGGA is also offering monthly classes on-site and has Master Gardeners in the garden to accept questions and speak with the public.

• Lubbock Master Gardener Hub City Garden Tour

The Lubbock Master Gardener Association hosted the annual Hub City Garden Tour featuring 6 public and private gardens for participants to tour, gather ideas from, and speak with garden owners/managers. One Hundred Fifty-Five (155) tickets were sold this year.

• Texas Nursery & Landscape Association

Agent Reid presented 2 programs to the West Region of this green industry group of professionals. Rose Rosette Disease and Oak Wilt were the pertinent topics.



Brynlee Edwards -
 Sr Enhanced

- **Lubbock Master Gardener Intern Program**

The Lubbock Master Gardener Association has accepted 18 adults into this 50-hour education and 50-hour community service program. Agent Reid has both assisted in planning the programming and presenting during the classes.

4-H and Youth Development

Ronda Alexander, County Extension Agent - 4-H and Youth Development

- **4-H Enrollment Time**

It is time for families to enroll or re-enroll in Lubbock County 4-H. This year enrollment is online again at 4-H Online (<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>). This is the 5th year that we have had 4-H Online, not 4-H Connect; if you didn't re-enroll last year, the 4-H Connect site will not work. Enrollment began on August 15 and is \$25 per member for 3rd-12th grade; as of November 1, the fee will go up to \$30. 4-H Clovers, (K-2nd grade) have a \$10 enrollment fee, and also need to register through 4-H Online. Volunteers and parents who will be involved in a volunteer role also need to enroll on 4-H Online. There is a \$10 screening fee for volunteers. Parents are not required to be screened unless they plan to have a volunteer role; enrollment for volunteers can be completed at any time. If a parent plans to attend a volunteer certification (for example - shooting sports), it does take a couple of weeks to complete the screening process and the screening must be approved before they can sign up. When enrolling in 4-H, 4-H'ers must designate one 4-H club to be enrolled in. Please contact Ronda, if you have questions about 4-H enrollment. The 4-H Clubs that will be available for this year are:

- Frenship 4-H Club
- Hub City 4-H Club
- Lubbock 3P Rifle 4-H Club
- Lubbock Rabbit 4-H Club
- Shallowater 4-H Club
- Caprock 4-H Club
- Wildcat 4-H Club (Idalou)
- Southside 4-H Club

The Lubbock County Office supports over 26 4-H projects for youth to participate in through project meetings, workshops, contests and camps. Get involved today!

- **State 4-H Recordbook Winner**

This year, Lubbock County 4-H'ers had a great showing at State 4-H Recordbook Judging which was held in August. Seven senior recordbooks advanced to State Judging; 1st place winners were: Aaron

Chaloupka, Wildcat 4-H - Gardening Horticulture; Madison Chaloupka, Wildcat 4-H - Horse; and Brynlee Edwards, Wildcat 4-H - Food and Nutrition. Others competing at State were Kyndra Messer, Frenship 4-H - Fashion and Interior Design; Lana Brickey, Shallowater 4-H - Poultry; Jacob Everitt, Shallowater 4-H - Health; and Stone Beach, Shallowater 4-H - Public Speaking. This year, 35 recordbooks were turned in for District and a total of 47 judged at the county level.

- **Four Newest 4-H Gold Star Recipients**

On October 23, four Lubbock County 4-H'ers were recognized at the District 4-H Gold Star Banquet. This year's recipients include: Jacob Everitt - Shallowater 4-H Club Member, Stone Beach - Shallowater 4-H Club Member, Brier Griffis - Wildcat 4-H Club Member, and Madison Chaloupka - Wildcat 4-H Club member. Jamie and Christy Ayers, Wildcat 4-H Club leaders were also recognized as Distinguished Leaders for Lubbock County.

- **Children's 4-H Barnyard at the South Plains Fair**

We had another great year at the Children's 4-H Barnyard at the South Plains Fair. This year 189 youth and adult volunteers manned the barnyard for 501 volunteer hours! We also had the regular barnyard animals attending and a few new exhibits which included 2 alpacas (plus a baby born during the Fair), 2 dorper cross sheep, a miniature hereford cow and calf, 3 hatching chicks, a ewe and 2 baby lambs, 50 chicks and 10 ducks, 8 sheep, 4 goats, 1 rooster and 6 hens, 4 bunnies and the bee keeping exhibit from the Caprock Bee-Keeper's Association. We also had Purina Mills and HFC Feeds donate the feed for the animals and Western Hay Yard provide straw bales for decor. Hopefully everyone also saw the Path to Plate Posters highlighting information about Honey, Sheep and Corn.

- **4-H Food and Nutrition Project**

This year we are in full swing with the 4-H Food and Nutrition project. The competition divisions in this project include, District 2 United Supermarkets Grilling Games, Food Challenge, Food Show and FCH Quiz Bowl. We also have tours and workshops for 4-H'ers to participate in which will include touring Sprouts Grocers, 19th Street Market Street United Supermarket and a 3 part "Cooking in the Kitchen" workshop series. For more information or to get involved, please visit the Lubbock County 4-H Facebook page or the County website at <https://lubbock.agrilife.org>.

- **4-H Food Challenge Coaches School**

Agent Edwards held a 4-H Food Challenge Coaches School on September 12th for adult leaders in the county willing to coach a team this year. Twelve adults and one teen leader attended the school where they participated in a mock contest and made Shrimp Scampi. Currently, there are 21 teams in Lubbock County practicing and preparing for the county contest to be held on October 22nd and the district contest to be held on October 30th.

Family and Community Health

Cory Edwards, County Extension Agent-Family & Community Health
Ashlyn Aljoe, Asst. Extension Agent-Family & Community Health

- **Food Manager Certification Training**

A two-day food manager certification training course was held on August 8-9, 2023 in Lubbock. The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service event is designed for food service managers; the certification is valid for five years in the state of Texas. Sixteen participants attended the training which was co-taught by Agent Edwards, Agent Aljoe, Agent Lostroh, Agent Snowden and Agent Lowe. The same training course was offered by our district team in Levelland on September 26-27, 2023 with fifteen participants.

- **Texas Extension Education Association**

The Lubbock TEEA (Texas Extension Education Association - formerly known as Homemaker's Clubs) Lunch Bunch resumed meeting monthly in September. Members enjoyed a lunch provided by Deanna Johnson at her home and made plans for monthly programs and meeting times and locations. This club now has 12 members. This year, Lubbock was recognized at the most improved county at the state meeting, and the club received a check for \$100.

- **Walk Across Texas!**

Walk Across Texas! Kicked off on September 25, 2023 with 33 teams consisting of 120 adults and 94 youth. Teams of 8 are in a friendly competition to see who can log the most miles to move their team the 832 miles across Texas from El Paso to Longview in 8 weeks. Educational materials, inspiration, and weekly updates are shared by Agent Edwards through a private Facebook group, by email, and on a map of Texas bulletin board posted outside the Extension Office.

- **Master of Memory Program**

The goal of the Master of Memory program is to improve participants' memory function. Master of Memory encourages participants to recognize that they can impact their memory function, evaluate their own memory function, identify factors that may enhance or detract from their memory function, and find ways that may help address some of those factors. This six-lesson series was taught by Agent Aljoe to the residents of Homestead Apartments in August 2023.

Better Living for Texans

Amber Bozeman, Extension Agent - BLT

- **Growing and Nourishing Healthy Communities**

The Growing and Nourishing Healthy Communities Garden Course, which is funded, in part, by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), helps increase the availability of fresh produce through teaching participants how to grow fruits and vegetables in community and backyard gardens. The gardening series includes topics such as how to select the right garden location, planting and watering techniques, controlling insects, and composting. By incorporating cooking demonstrations using the produce grown, participants learn how to prepare the produce they harvest. Agent Bozeman started this program with Lubbock Senior Center, Homestead Senior Apartments, Mae Simmons Senior Center, Maggie Trejo Senior Center, and Copper Rawlings Center. She has 157 participants in this program.

- **Learn, Grow, Eat, Go**

Learn, Grow, Eat & GO! (LGEG) is the research & evidence-based curriculum project of the Junior Master Gardener® Program that combines academic achievement, gardening, nutrient-dense food experiences, physical activity, & school & family engagement. Created by teachers, this a linear set of hands-on, proven lessons, will help students will better understand plants and how plants provide for people's needs. The 10- week (2 lessons/week) unit of study will step your class through the process of establishing a thriving garden that is easy to create and maintain. The easy-to-follow curriculum features opportunities for fresh vegetable tasting/ evaluation, simple recipe demos, and physical activities that research shows can improve on-task behavior and academic performance. Agent Bozeman has started this program in partnership with New Deal Afterschool Centers for Education(ACE), Shallowater Afterschool Centers for

Education(ACE), Carmona Harrison Elementary, and the South Plains Food Bank Grub farm. Agent Bozeman has had 453 participants start this program, and 399 graduates.

Multi-Agent Program

Cory Edwards, County Extension Agent-Family & Community Health
 Christina Reid, County Extension Agent - Horticulture
 Amber Bozeman, Extension Agent - BLT
 Ashlyn Aljoe, Asst. Extension Agent-Family & Community Health

● **Cultivate, Cook, and Create**

This is a 10-week gardening and nutrition series that was ongoing through August 9th. This series uses the Learn, Grow, Eat, Go curriculum to motivate youth through cooking, gardening, and nutrition to have a better understanding of and appreciation for nutrient dense foods. Lubbock Extension Agents Amber Bozeman, Cory Edwards, Ashlyn Aljoe, Christina Reid, and two interns from Texas Tech, utilized to teach 50 youth at the South Plains Food Bank Grub Farm.

Multidisciplinary Program

Cory Edwards, County Extension Agent-Family & Community Health
 Ronda Alexander, County Extension Agent - 4-H and Youth Development
 Robert Scott, County Extension Agent - Agriculture
 Brant Baugh, County Extension Agent - Agriculture
 Christina Reid, County Extension Agent - Horticulture
 Amber Bozeman, Extension Agent - BLT
 Ashlyn Aljoe, Asst. Extension Agent-Family & Community Health

Vine to Wine is a multidisciplinary, cost-recovery event put on by all of the agents in the Lubbock County Office and sponsored by our Leadership Advisory Board. One LAB member served as the greeter and took care of registration. Another LAB member gave the welcome. The purpose of the event is to educate the public on the process of making wine from the vineyard to the bottle and the economic impact of this growing industry. It took place at Adelphos Cellars on Monday, August 28, 2023 with 41 in attendance. Participants enjoyed a glass of wine, charcuterie cups, wine-and-cheese pairings, a vineyard tour, and listening to 3 speakers - the vineyard manager, the cellar owner, and Extension viticulture specialist, Daniel Hillin.

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