TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

Denton County AgriLife Update

November 2022 Recap

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We are pleased to provide you with the information contained in this report. Current educational information is supported by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

Included in this report are monthly updates from our different departments; 4-H & Youth Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources, Better Living for Texans, Family & Community Health, and Horticulture.

If you are interested in participating in any of the mentioned AgriLife Extension educational programs throughout the year, please feel welcome to do so.

All Extension programs are sponsored by AgriLife program area committees for anyone's educational benefit. We would like to acknowledge the Extension volunteer base, Extension Specialists, and cooperators who contributed to the planning of all educational information compiled in this educational newsletter.

4-H & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Steven Baringer, 4-H and Youth Development Extension Agent

This month I have to brag on a group of our 4-H members. Last month I shared about our County Food Challenge Contest. Some of those teams advanced to the District Contest in Sulphur Springs. One of our junior teams, the Crafty Cooks from Ag Leadership 4-H Club – placed first in their Division for the second year straight! We are super proud of all our teams who competed.

4-H members participate in community service projects year around. During the holiday season, it has become a tradition for several of our 4-H clubs to participate in Operation Christmas Child. Clubs fill shoeboxes and bring them to our monthly meeting. The Mayfield family organizes this project as well as a work day at a processing center. The Mayfields are 4-H alumni who are always giving back to this program! Without our volunteers, 4-H and AgriLife would not be what it is today. We are thankful for all of you!

Agent Baringer with The Crafty Cooks who competed in the District Food Challenge at Sulphur Springs. They placed first in their Division for the second year straight!

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Zach A. Davis, Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Agent

November was a month full of planning and reporting. Agent Zach Davis met with the Denton County Central Appraisal District Ag Advisory Board as they prepared the 2022 agriculture survey for the Texas Comptroller's office. In addition, the extension office had its quarterly Leadership Advisory Board meeting to get feedback from local citizens on extension programs. Agent Davis attended agriculture education events at Ryan elementary and visited with our local Ag Leadership 4-H Club.

At the end of the month, the Denton County agents began our legislative visits with state representatives and staffers. These visits allow agents to interpret what we have been doing on the county level and open a conversation about our legislative priorities for the upcoming session.

On November 13th, Agent Zach Davis presented on sheep and goat production during the Ag Leadership 4-H Club meeting, which was held at the North Texas Fairgrounds.

BETTER LIVING FOR TEXANS

Dusty Fife, Better Living for Texans Extension Agent

Better Living for Texans Agent Dusty Fife had another great month in the books. She completed the 8-week Walk N Talk series with the Lewisville Public Library and Thrive Recreation Center participants. It was such a successful program that they have asked to partner again to bring this program back in the spring. Likewise, Fife started another 4-week program at the Lewisville Public Library called A Fresh Start to a Healthier You. The participants enjoy learning new techniques and strategies to increase fruit and vegetable intake, food safety, and food resource management. Agent Fife will soon be wrapping up the Healthy Carbohydrate series with the Foster Grandparent program partnership through the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Fife reported that she had the best time as she teamed up again with our 4H Program Coordinator Colleen Carpenter to bring a cooking class to Denton County's Juvenile Detention Center students.

Participants enjoy Fife's A Fresh Start to a Healthier You program at the Lewisville Public Library.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH

Chandani Kothari, Family and Community Health Extension Agent

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Denton County Healthy Happenings

Agent Kothari judged junior teams at the District Food Challenge held at Sulphur Springs. It was a wonderful experience to see all the 4-H youth showcase their food and nutrition skills as they cooked up delicious recipes. She presented on Heart Health at Flower Mound Senior Centers, where they learned about heart-healthy lifestyle choices. To prepare for year-end reporting, she attended In-Depth Summary training to learn about accurate interpretation of the program impact. Lastly, FCH and BLT agents hosted their year-end Program Area Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the upcoming program year planning.

HORTICULTURE

Janet Laminack, Horticulture Extension Agent

The horticulture department would like to highlight two Master Gardener volunteers for their amazing service to the community. First, Carolyn Tinner was recognized with the state honor of Texas Master Gardener Emerita after 20 years of service. She was instrumental in establishing the first Garden Fest event, which developed into Fall Fest. As an educator and leader in specialty groups, Carolyn served on the Herbal Branch, Succulent Group, and Plant Propagation Group committees. She has spent countless hours planning events and classes to promote science-based horticulture practices.

Secondly, Kathy Rainey has shown outstanding service to Stone Creek's Neighbors Helping Neighbors in Carrollton. She helped the organization plan a project and train members on landscaping and environmental practices. Kathy's skills, patience, time commitment, and knowledge far exceeded the community's expectations. We are thankful for all the wonderful volunteers that help serve Denton County!

Shown left to right: Carolyn Tinner, Linda Williams, and Agent Janet Laminack. Carolyn Tinner was recognized with the state honor of Texas Master Gardener Emerita after 20 years of service. Agent Laminack presented the award at the Succulent Group meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

4-H Fashion Show / Duds to Dazzle Workshop - 12/3

District IV 4-H Photography Contest - 12/5 - 12/8

Recipe Demonstration Lunch & Learn - 12/8

Pesticide Applicator Recertification - 12/9

Commissioners Court Interpretation - 12/13

Diabetes Prevention (Flower Mound Senior Center) - 12/16

For more information on these programs go to https://denton.agrilife.org/ or call us at 940-349-2882
Don't forget to like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

What's Growing On

Denton County Master Gardener Association

Upcoming Events

December 3 — ***Permanent Gardening Class***
8am-5 pm. Presented by Beulah Acres. Global Spheres Center, Corinth. Registration required.

December 9 — ***Growing Succulents***
9-10 am. Presented by Bonnie Ambrose. Denton Senior Center.

December 9 — ***Container Gardening***
11 am-noon. Presented by Charlotte Canion. Dallas Aboretum.

January 4 — ***Pleasures & Perils of Perennials***
10-11 am. Presented by Carol Rowley. Denton Senior Center.

January 10 — ***Landscape Design***
7-8 pm. Co-sponsored by Flower Mound Garden Club. Presented by Lynda Harvey. Bridlewood Activity Center.

January 13 — ***Japanese Gardens***
9-10 am. Presented by Carol Rowley. Denton Senior Center.

January 19 — ***Companion Plants***
6-7 pm. Co-sponsored by Greater Aubrey Area Library. Presented by Bonnie Ambrose. Greater Aubrey Area Library.

For detailed information: *dcmga.com/upcoming events*

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

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