



4-H Connect

September

Dallas County 4-H

2024



WHERE 4-H GROWS

COUNTY NEWS

EXITING NEW PROGRAMS FROM DALLAS COUNTY 4-H



This summer has been bustling for the Dallas County 4-H office as we roll out new initiatives like the Teens as Teachers and 4-H Soccer for Success programs. These exciting additions are made possible by a grant from the American Rescue Plan.

Our Extension Agents and coordinators have been collaborating with organizations such as the Boys & Girls Clubs to extend our reach to underserved youth. This partnership aims to deliver valuable programming and information on food and nutrition, physical education, and social-emotional wellbeing. We're also gearing up to include STEM programming this fall.

The Teens as Teachers Program has been particularly successful, training 20 new teen educators who will now offer educational opportunities within their communities. These new teen teachers are enthusiastic about their roles as educators and representatives for 4-H.

For more information about these programs or to learn how you can become a volunteer, please contact the Dallas County Extension office.

[Click this page to view the entire newsletter.](#)

TEENS AS TEACHERS



SOCCKER FOR SUCCESS



»»» ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

The 2023-2024 Dallas County Program Year concluded with our much-anticipated Annual Awards Ceremony, themed “Shrek and Fairytales.” This year’s event was brought to life thanks to the remarkable efforts of our Teen Advisory Board and dedicated adult volunteers, who excelled in decorating, planning, and setting up. We thoroughly enjoyed celebrating everyone’s achievements and recognizing the hard work that went into making this year a success. Our heartfelt thanks go out to all our volunteers who continuously strive to make the best even better. With the current year wrapped up, we’re already looking forward to next year’s events!





2024 ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY



YOUTH HIGHLIGHT

STATE ARCHERY GAMES

by Jakub Schon



The Texas 4-H State Games Archery event takes place in San Antonio in July. This was my first time going. It was about a 4-hour car drive, but it was worth it. There was plenty of time to do other stuff in San Antonio while we were there, so it was also like a mini vacation. It's summer in Texas, so it was already hot, but there wasn't really a "facility," so there was no air conditioning either. The entire event was outdoors, but there were awnings to provide shade for Wand and Modified 600. Clout and Field were insanely hot! Bring extra, extra water if you go next year.

I did three types of archery on three different days: Clout, Wand, and Field. I did not do Modified 600 or 3D. Clout was really fun, but extremely tiring as I had to go back and forth in the sun to retrieve arrows. But it was the most rewarding and my favorite out of the three events I did. The target was about 70 to 80 meters away, and it was on the ground, so you really needed to aim high enough or your arrows just wouldn't get there. It took about 4 to 5 hours.

Field archery, which is similar to 3D but with paper targets, was the most difficult for me - so hot and hardly any trees to hide under. Personally, my bow, a Genesis NASP, was not powerful enough for those 30, 35, and sometimes, 40-meters-away targets. That was just for intermediate distances; seniors had to shoot further some of the time! Again, it was super hot, but it was still really neat. There was a target on the other side of a little stream, so you had to stand on a platform and shoot across the stream. If you drop your bow, it's gone, for sure. At one point, there was a huge deer running through the field. He got about halfway before he realized he needed to get out of there! That event also took about 5 hours.

Wand was interesting. The target was just a super tall, skinny, bale with a blue field and two thin yellow lines sandwiching a thin red line in the center. The red stripe was an X, the yellow stripes were counted as hits, and the blue mat was counted as misses. Yellow was what you wanted, because the red X was mainly for tiebreaking. It was a lot of fun once I got used to it. My favorite part of Wand was the fact that there was shade. Wand was pretty straightforward and only took about 1 hour.

Before the awards ceremony, the seniors that graduated got to do a t-shirt shoot where they put a shirt of their choice on the bale and then shot at it. And then their friends and family got to shoot at it, too. That was pretty cool. One crazy thing that happened during the t-shirt shoot was a little dust devil, like a mini dust tornado, whipped up and knocked down a couple of bales and swirled around the archers.

That's the basic rundown of the State Games event. The best part for me was that I placed in every event. I really enjoyed it, and I highly recommend going next year.



DALLAS 4-H CLUBS CORNER

East Dallas 4-H



East Dallas 4-H marked the end of the 4-H year with a festive party at The Spilled Milk Cereal Bar and Ice Cream Lounge in Bishop Arts. The event featured Zachary Porter presenting awards and project pins to celebrate the achievements of our members.

A special highlight of the evening was the recognition of the Lewis Family for their eleven years of dedicated service to 4-H and for founding the East Dallas 4-H Club. Their commitment and contributions have been instrumental in our success



Pegasus 4-H

Pegasus 4-H ended its first year with a vibrant Cinco de Mayo celebration. Following the elections for next year's council, the festivities began in full swing.

Members were recognized for their hard work throughout the year with 4-H pins, including a special Master Photography pin awarded to Abigail Kailukaitis. Abigail, a State Photography Ambassador, has dedicated six years to her project, culminating in a memorable trip to Europe with 4-H last summer.

The celebration featured a range of enjoyable activities, including learning a traditional Mexican dance, breaking a piñata, and savoring tostadas. The club is eagerly looking forward to the opportunities and experiences the next year will bring.



»»» DALLAS 4-H CLUBS CORNER



Tumbleweed 4-H <<<

The Tumbleweeds Club wrapped up their year at their May meeting, where new officers for the 2024-2025 year were elected. The members enjoyed a slideshow that highlighted the fun and productive moments of the past year.

During the meeting, all youth, volunteers, and graduating seniors were recognized for their hard work and dedication to the club.

Continuing their cultural celebration from Cinco de Mayo, the club learned how to play Lotería and sampled a variety of Mexican foods, including tamales, chips with salsa, papaya, jicama, chicharrones, and Mexican candies.

»»» Beekeeping 4-H Spin Club

Thanks to David and Linda Hampton, 4-H members had a fantastic opportunity to delve into honeybee biology and beekeeping. The session covered essential topics, including the equipment needed for maintaining bees, setting up an apiary, and identifying pests that could threaten bee health.

In addition to these valuable lessons, members enjoyed sampling honey and creating their own beeswax lip balm.



THE EDIBLE GARDEN FOR ALL

By Xiomara Diaz Vargas, County Director

Thanks to a grant from the American Rescue Plan, the Dallas County Extension Office is excited to launch a new initiative: the Urban Farming Project. This project is designed to address the nutrition gap in fresh produce access within Dallas County, particularly affecting communities impacted by poverty, cultural and ethnic diversity, and the COVID-19 pandemic. The Urban Farming Project will facilitate hands-on learning at the RB1 Urban Farm. Participants from low-resource schools and communities heavily impacted by the pandemic will have the opportunity to learn about gardening and nutrition through organized busing. Additionally, AgriLife Extension will introduce a mobile education unit to deliver the Edible Garden for All (EGA) series educational program throughout Dallas County.

This initiative aims to enhance participants' understanding of fresh food cultivation, environmental stewardship, and the importance of accessible food production. It will benefit both youth and adults by increasing their food-growing literacy and appreciation for healthy food choices.

The project's first phase involves creating educational programs covering various growing methods, including indoor and outdoor techniques. A hydroponics system has already been set up in the North Dallas Government Building, with plans to expand to RB1 and South Dallas locations.

For more information, please contact Bria Cooper, Family Community Health Agent-PV, at the extension office. You can reach her at bria.cooper@ag.tamu.edu or 214-904-5050.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept 1st 4-H Year begins Open Enrollment

Sept 2nd Labor Day

Sept 4th Archery Tournament at the State Fair of Texas

Sept 7th Youth Leadership Training for all Council and youth interested in leadership

Sept 7th State Photography Pink Fishing “Reelin in the Cure” Community Service Project

Sept 9th Robotics Project Meeting 5pm

4-H Youth Leadership Meeting 7pm

Sept 11 District IV Shooting Sports Coaches Training - Registration Opens

Sept 18th District IV Horse Judging Contes Opens

Sept 21 Junior Master Photography Workshop I

Sept 24 Green Jacket Academy Open Enrollment

Sept 26 Livestock Evaluation Project 6pm

Sept 27 State Fair of Texas Opens

Don't forget to [sign up to volunteer](#) for our One Day 4-H Lakeshore Cleanup, on October 12th at White Rock Lake

FOR MORE DETAILS ABOUT THESE UPCOMING EVENTS, PLEASE VISIT OUR [CALENDAR](#) OR CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 214-904-5050.

[SUBSCRIBE TO THE DALLAS COUNTY 4-H CALENDAR](#)

SPONSORED BY CONSTELLATION OF LIVING MEMORIALS

THE MOON & NATURE AT NIGHT

+ FULL HARVEST MOON CEMETERY WALK

**GUEST SPEAKER: AMY MARTIN,
AUTHOR OF WILD DFW**

The Constellation of Living Memorials envision an ever-expanding constellation of cemeteries that are committed to the preservation of Texas' natural and cultural heritage.

"RECONNECTING EVERYONE TO AN AUTHENTIC SENSE OF PLACE"

JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING EVENT

Discover how darkness and the Moon impact plants and wildlife, especially in urban areas.

Learn how to live in tune with the Moon with gardening based on the lunar phases with the the Moon Lady, Amy Martin, author of Wild DFW:

Explore the Amazing Nature Around Dallas-Fort Worth.

Event Details:

Date: September 16, 2024
Lecture starts at : 6:30PM TO 8:30 PM
Location: TAKING BACK OUR COMMUNITY CHURCH (TBOC)
6508 Military Pkwy Dallas, TX 75227
Nature Walk starts at 7:30 PM at Glover Cemetery

To register, Scan QR code



or go to <https://forms.gle/UkxPrDSoyRxlVwq9>

SAVE THE DATE FOR
Oakland Cemetery's 3rd annual
celebration



Dia de los Muertos 2024

Bring The Entire Family

Join us on Saturday, October 26th for a traditional Day of the Dead Festival at Oakland Cemetery!

Food for purchase Ballet Folklorica Community Alter Crafts for kids

Free Entry **Saturday** **10AM - 3PM**
OCT 26th

3900 Oakland Circle, Dallas, TX 75215

Participants will include:
Constellation of Living Memorials & 4-H




If you would like to be featured in the next newsletter, please send in your article and pictures by [September 23rd]. We're excited to showcase your achievements and updates!

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need assistance with your submissions.

Dallas County 4-H - Contact information

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