



CASS COUNTY 4-H VISION

Meeting Needs...Changing Lives

April 2013

Hello,

This is our third issue of our 4-H newsletter for Cass County - the *Cass County 4-H Vision*. We want to inform you of our major focus and our need for collaboration among all the 4-H clubs, Program Area Committees (PAC), Task Force, Advisory Board, Volunteers, Supporters and Sponsors in achieving a common goal. Our major goal is in the area of program development for the youths in the community – by way of the 4-H and Youth Development Program. The following will be conducted on a phase by phase basis for the remaining 4-H club year and beyond:

- ✿ Development and chartering of 4 new 4-H clubs
- ✿ Introduce 4-H Enrichment Curriculum in the various schools
- ✿ Recruitment of 15 volunteers to support the 4-H program
- ✿ Establishment of program area committees (PACs) and Task Force to oversee the program development process
- ✿ Providing scholarships and funding for expansion of the 4-H programs and projects
- ✿ Marketing and promoting the overall 4-H and Youth Development Program
- ✿ Issues identification and programs evaluation and interpretation

Our ongoing needs assessment of the county has so far reflect a need for more community base youth organizations such as 4-H clubs. We are encouraging partnership in this regard and soliciting support from the 4-H Youth Council and 4-H Advisory Board. Again, this can only be made possible by the support and cooperation of parents, school administrators, churches and community businesses and organizations.

As an effort to reach everyone, please read and share this newsletter with others, and feel free to give us your suggestions of those who we may contact as we continue to solicit support. We would love to include them on our list to receive this newsletter that will be published on a quarterly basis.

Please contact me if you have comments or questions. We welcome your input.

Sincerely,

John Ferguson

Extension Agent – 4-H & Youth, Cass
County
Cooperative Extension Program
Prairie View A&M University



Claire Burton-Hughes Springs 4-H Club Preparing
for the District Story Board Contest

Pamela Lincoln

County Extension Agent
Family and Consumer Sciences
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

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CLUB CONNECTIONS

CHAMPION 4-H CLUB

Marsha Moore

430-342-7294

marsha.moore@ipaper.com

Meeting Day - 2nd Monday - Monthly

LOCATION: Cass County Cowboy Church 7701 HWY 59 N, Atlanta, TX 75551

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

Activities/Projects: Rabbit, Broiler, Horse, Pigs, Horticulture, Photography, and Community Service

HOPE 4-H CLUB

Brian Whatley

903-720-7356

BMCJWhatley@aol.com

Meeting Day - 3rd Monday - Monthly

LOCATION: Abundant Life Church, 610 S. Louise St, Atlanta, TX 75551

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

Activities/Projects: Beef, Goat, Rabbit, Broiler, Pigs, Photography, Forestry and Community Service

HUGHES SPRINGS COMMUNITY 4-H CLUB

Angel Frazier

903-736-2129

sweetappleblossoms@gmail.com

Meeting Day - 2nd Tuesday - Monthly

LOCATION: Hughes Springs Public Library, 215 East First St, Hughes Springs, TX 75656 or Hughes Springs

Volunteer Fire Dept., 112 South Pine St, TX 75656

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

Activities/Projects: Photography, Foods, Clothing, Fire Safety, Community Service

DOUGLASSVILLE COMMUNITY 4-H CLUB

George Rowe, III

430-342-2860

georgerowe35@yahoo.com

Meeting Day - 2nd Tuesday - Monthly

LOCATION: New Hope Methodist Church, 8968 Hwy 77 West, Douglassville, TX 75560

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

Activities/Projects: Photography, Junior Master Gardener (JMG) and Community Service

Reflections—Do You Remember When or Where?

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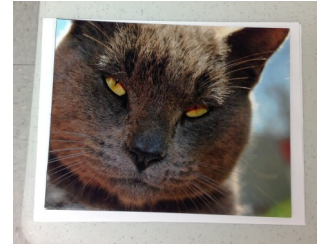
ONE INC Day in the Park
Back to School Event



Joshua Whatley and Lauren Burton
manning the Atlanta Drop off location for
West, Texas Relief Effort



Atlanta Elementary School
JMG



County Photo Contest Best of Show
Avigail Frazier-Hughes Springs 4-H



4-H Leaders Lending their advice



4-H'er and Volunteer
checking out the Door
Prizes



JMG Project Group Douglassville 4-H
Club



Hope 4-H Club Members
getting ready for County
Livestock Show



County Photography Contest
29 Entries



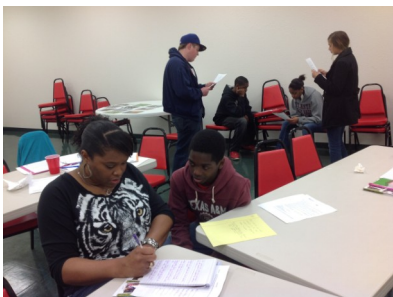
Douglassville 4-H Club



Atlanta Elementary School
JMG Project



Atlanta Elementary School
JMG Project Room



February 4-H Project Training



Gearing up for Robotics Project



A Treat for Gene Bobo
Gone Fishing



Gene's Retirement
presentation from
Champion 4-H Club

Caleb Whatley-4-H Profile on Steer Project 2013

Caleb Whatley is a member of the Hope 4-H Club. He is in the 11th grade and is homeschooled. This year is Caleb's 6th year to show a steer.



"I have been able to gain knowledge in several areas because of my 4-H steer project. Although I have the responsibility of taking care of the animal on a day-to-day basis, there is more to having a successful animal project than just care. I have to research and visit farms to select a calf that will reach the desired product at show time. I also have the responsibility to feed, halter break, lead and groom the animal so that he will be ready when it comes time to show. Sometimes the animals may begin to express poor structural qualities, it is my job to know how to show my steer so that these poor qualities are minimized and the good qualities are expressed. With the market steer project, as the exhibitor, I am required to talk to prospective buyers to come to the sale to bid on and purchase my project. This teaches me communication skills. When I receive the check for my steer, after writing "Thank You" notes, I am able to save a portion for my education and use a portion of the money for future animal projects.

Through my steer project, I am gaining skills in communication – verbal and written, finances, how to feed and care for my animal as well as how to groom and show my animal and also skills in selecting an animal project. These are all qualities I will benefit from as an Adult.

This year, I placed 8th at the Cass County Cattleman's Steer Show and also received Senior Showmanship. Mr. Wesley Nutt of Quality Building in Queen City and Mr. Boyce Whatley of Boyce Whatley Properties in Kildare purchased my steer."

In addition to his steer project, Caleb also has the following 4-H projects this year: Meat Goat, Forestry, Horse and Citizenship.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

- ✿ *Cass County Master Gardeners are currently recruiting for a certification class in July, 2013. Contact: Aaron Harding @ 903-306-8696, Debbie Jones @ 903-846-2311 Ext. 233 or the county Extension Office @ 903-756-5391*
- ✿ *Proposed 4-H club for Linden, Texas – coming soon. Contact: Lutreasa Jackson @ 903-756-8038, Latonia Garner @ 903-756-7231 (4-H volunteers) or Cass County Extension Office: 903-756-5391*
- ✿ *The Atlanta ISD Junior Master Gardener (JMG) program is being considered the model project that will be adopted and extended throughout Cass County.*
- ✿ *Volunteer assistance is currently being sought from the Cass County Master Gardeners, the Linden Gardening Club, and the Various School Districts, to implement the JMG project on a phase by phase basis in other school districts.*
- ✿ *A county wide 4-H Membership drive is currently underway - after choosing a 4-H club, your parent should create a family profile by going to <https://texas.4honline.com/Login.aspx?4079444C6D387A6E595A2F6F3D> and enroll each child under the guidance of the 4-H club manager or the County Extension Agent.*
- ✿ *Follow us on Facebook – search for: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service – Cass County*

Contact Me!!!

Give me a call for more information about opportunities in 4-H.

John Ferguson
Extension Agent
4-H & Youth Development

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Phone: 903-756-5391
Fax: 903-756-8923

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The Cooperative Extension Program serves people of all ages regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, political beliefs, and marital or family status. (Not all classes are protected by legal statutes).