

Outcome Summaries:

- *AG-New Farm Bill and New Ag Committee*
- *FCS-Domestic Violence Shelter Donations and new programs for "food insecure" families.*
- *4-H stock shows and new projects starting*

Agricultural and Natural Resources

The new farm bill interpretation, passed by Congress in 2014, was a big outreach provided by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service during this period. A farm bill training, in which the FSA (Farm Service Agency) was finally allowed to participate, was conducted for producers here at the Hemphill County Exhibition Center. Since this presentation, a number of landowners with cultivated base acres that may be in grass, have been in and out of our Hemphill

County office seeking information and assistance. This is an important decision that will

impact farmers and producers over the next five years of administration by the USDA Farm Bill.

2015 Hemphill County AG Committee has met and decided on the priorities and strategic plan for Hemphill Co Texas A&M AgriLife Extension for the new year. The emphasis will be focused on pasture management working our way through the drought back into healthy productive ranges. We will also analyze and provide educational strategies on restocking and the most cost effective ways to accomplish being fully stocked. It was also decided that education and training on subjects like beef cattle quality and a new Hemphill Co Extension Beef Club should be developed or focused on also. Moisture conditions and drought management are also a continued major priority of Hemphill Co Agriculture.

The Hemphill Co AG Committee consist of David Cook, Gary Jahnel, Lee Haygood, Sheri Hensley, Milton Cooke, Marty Rash, Justin Raider, Rodney Walsler, Blain Eubanks, Tonny Hamby, Cody Matthews, Brian Ash and Andy Holloway.



Hemphill County

Mission Statement

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

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age or national origin.

The Texas A&M University System, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Family and Consumer Sciences

Donations, financial education and plans for assisting families who are food insecure were begun during this quarter. Texas Extension Education members collected and donated toiletry items to the local domestic violence center during December. Domestic violence unfortunately escalates during the holidays. The items were greatly appreciated by the center.

Financial Education and nutrition education were started at the Oasis

Cove Apartments. The apartments are an income restricted property. They are required to offer classes to their residents. They have partnered with Hemphill County Texas A & M Agrilife Extension to fulfill this need. The classes are being offered in a lunch and learn setting. The classes have also been advertised and are open to anyone, whether a resident of the apartments or not.

February proved to be a month of planning spring events. One of those events will be held in March as we look at starting a Food for Families program in the county. Food 4 Families is a program with an educational component to serve "food insecure" families. The kick off will be in March. WE also began plans for "Seat Belt Safety Check" in April.



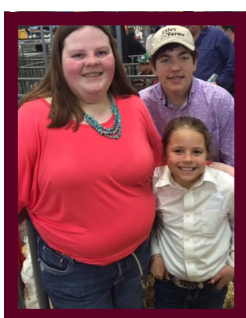
Hemphill County



Tanya Holloway and Andy Holloway

Hemphill Co 4-H

4-H Shooting Sports, stock show preparations, growing out 4-H projects during winter weather conditions and starting clothing and textile projects were big considerations for the Hemphill County 4-H program in the early part of this quarter. Showmanship clinics, fitting training, daily care and the responsibility of making sure their stock show projects were on pace and ready for the 2015



Hemphill County Junior Livestock Show were all big priorities of our 4-H families. 4-H is about family, learning life lessons, life skills and having fun. The Hemphill Co 4-H Shooting Sports is off to a fast start with over 60 4-H members going through the safety training course and preparing for the spring events put on by Texas 4-H, Inc. This is an exciting new opportunity for our youth in the county.



Stock shows have been in full bloom, kicked off by our 2015 Hemphill County Junior Livestock Show in January. Entries were up 20% over 2014 and the Junior Premium Auction Sale grossed 28% more than 2014. Stock Show enthusiasm and excitement was evident by very large crowds on both days of the event. 20 Hemphill County 4-Hers participated in the Stock Show "Cobbler Clinic" These 4-Hers prepared cobbler that were sold at the stock show concession stand. The 4-H Concession stand at the stock show net 3 times more profit than the previous year. Over 30 4-H youth and their parents worked hard to



make the show a booming success. The Fort Worth, San Angelo & San Antonio Shows were also during this first quarter and Hemphill Co youth did very well and made "The Best Better" Leaders were



trained to implement the 4-H clothing project. The new "Duds to Dazzle" project has gained interest among 4-Her's. The chance to create a product and learn how to market it has been a hit. 4-Her's have also begun work on educational presentations for spring competition.

A committee from the Adult Leaders Association was also formed to set in place an awards program for the county 4-H program.

During this quarter a Hemphill Co 4-H Adult Leader Retreat was conducted for the purposes of training and preparing for the opportunities ahead for the youth of our county. Dr. Chris Boleman, Assistant Director of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and CEO of Texas 4-H, Inc., along with Dr. Martha Couch, retired Texas A&M AgriLife Extension 4-H Specialist and Assistant Director, led the conference. Great motivation, training and planning resulted in this two day event.



For more information
contact your local
County Extension Agent.

Andy Holloway

Agriculture & Natural Resources
(325) 668-0466

Tanya Holloway

Family & Consumer Sciences
(325) 668-7788

Kristi Huffman

Administrative Assistant
(806) 231-6736

Contact Information.

10865 Exhibition Rd.
Canadian, TX 79014

C: 806.323.9114

F: 806.323.8392

Email:

Hemphill-TX@tamu.edu

Website:

<http://hemphill.agrilife.org>

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION