

Making a Difference

in Navarro County

TEXAS A&M

GRILIFE

EXTENSION

October 2021

Extension Newsletter for County Commissioners Court







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COVID-19 RESPONSE



Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

- ⇒ 490 county agents trained county judges, commissioners, municipal and school district officials
- \Rightarrow **2.970** enrollments
- ⇒ More than 600 local-jurisdiction inquiries answered



Medical

- \Rightarrow 1,007 testing sites
- \Rightarrow 231 counties
- ⇒ **430.803** tests
- ⇒ 230 ventilators
- ⇒ 157 hospitals in 45 counties received remdesivir (A Texas hospital had one vial of remdesivir left when the new supply was delivered.)



PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

(general, child care providers, polling locations)

- \Rightarrow 7,605 deliveries
- \Rightarrow 17,708 pallets
- ⇒ 7,646 child care providers reached
- ⇒ **8,079** polling locations to support **56,840** workers



Workforce

(or reengaging the economy)

- ⇒ 276,229 enrollments in four online child care trainings that were developed at the request of the Texas Frontline Child Care Task Force
- ⇒ 494 enrollments in the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)



Contact Tracing/Data Entry

- ⇒ 190 employees
- ⇒ Up to 20 hours/week
- Contact tracing helps prevent further virus transmission by quickly identifying and informing people who may be infected and contagious so they can take steps not to infect others.



Regional Teams

- ⇒ Extension Agent-Disaster Assessment Recovery Locations
- ⇒ Regional Disaster Assessment Response teams help local communities prepare, respond and recover from COVID-19. These teams also deliver PPE and medical supplies to health care facilities, support mobile test collection and provide education statewide.

Agriculture and Natural Resources:

40th Annual Beef Calendar: 1000 Calendars were printed and distributed to banks, feed stores, and residents of Navarro, Freestone and Ellis County. Resources included for general herd care, vaccines, calving, weening, and more.

Pesticide Applicator License Training: 2 participants completed trainings were held July 9th and September 24th.

Navarro County Forage Program: Hosted Via Teams February 25th. Topics covered included control for pests and weeds in hay fields, soil fertility, and variety selections. Presentation were saved and posted online.

Navarro County Tire Day: Hosted on September 3rd. 108 city and county residence participated in the event with 1,473 tires collected.

Wildlife Workshop: Held September 16th at the Gus Engeling Wildlife Management Area, with 47 participating and 11 volunteers. Hosted by Freestone and Navarro Counties. Topics cover included; Managing postoak & savannahs, prescribed burning, livestock management, native plant restoration, cost share programs, feral hog eradication.

R.A.C.E. Trial: Planted April 28th and Harvested October 7th with Reed Ag. 10 varieties were replicated 4 time and samples are being tested with Dr. Dale Mott at this time.

<u>County Clean Up Day:</u> Hosted on August 7th 384 People Participated in our clean up day collecting a total of 1,036 cubic yards of waste.

<u>Cottage Foods and Poultry Program:</u> Hosted August 21st. Participants learned about Cottage foods License and Poultry Licensing

4-H and Youth Development:

Navarro County 4-H had 11 clubs during the 2020-21 enrollment year with 169 youth members and 25 youth/adult volunteers and adult leaders.

Navarro County Youth Expo: 77 4-H Exhibitors competed in the Expo with 107 projects. Foods, Photography, Creative Arts, and Livestock Projects

Livestock Project Meeting

Held an educational meeting to discuss different animal projects and the requirements to raise a show animal

4-H Contests:

Record Book Judging (10) Shotgun Club Shoots- Photography (40 entries 12 participants), CDM,(40), Food Challenge (2 Teams), Food Show (7), Fashion (4) Round Up Ed. Presentation (4) Public Speaking (1) Share the Fun (4) State Photography (2) Dog show Photography (1) Dog Show Project (2)

Summer Camps:

- Spa Camp—21 participants
- Leadership camp—14 Participants
- Science Camp—30 Participants
- Cake Camp- 36 Participants
- BBQ Camp—8 Participants
- Fishing camp—23 Participants

4-H Leadership & Development

- 1 youth District officer elected
- 24 youth, 3 Adults Attended County Camp
- 2 youth Attended District 8 Surge Leadership Camp
- 1 Texas 4-H Shooting Sports ambassadors
- 2 Texas 4-H Healthy Texas Ambassadors

Curriculum Enrichment

Hatching in the Classroom: This unique embryology curriculum guiding students through development of eggs to live chicks was implemented at 4 schools to teach 281 youth basic scientific principles through hand-on experiences. Caring for chicks teaches responsibility, animal care and nutrition. Schools participating: Collins Catholic School, Blooming Grove Elementary, Blooming Grove Jr High/High School, and Candy cane Daycare Center. Total enrichment for this year was 961.

Dance Fit and Healthy Nutrition

Is a 6 lesson exercise program and nutrition for youth and I partnered with Liz Espie to teach at VOICE summer camps with 47 youth and 12 adult volunteers. Taught dance and provided snacks.

Family & Consumer Sciences:

Souper Bowl of Caring

Organized a food drive for Compassion Corsicana with 4-H and collected over 200 can goods and \$200 in cash with 10 volunteers

BLT Nutrition Newsletters

Delivered between **150 and 250** nutrition newsletters with recipes quarterly to the Corsicana Food Pantry and First Baptist Good News Café

Be Well Live Well

Was conducted tri-county with Navarro, Limestone and McLennan County Foster Grandparents to provide health education at home due to high COVID risk. Navarro County had 6 participants with 15 total.

TAC Healthy Bootcamp Food Demo

Presented a Food Demo for TAC workshop with over **75 viewers** and received the volunteer of the year award.

Chamber of Commerce Ambassador

Attend monthly meetings, ribbon cuttings and business after hours to meet new clients and market Extension programs and received the volunteer of the year award with 12 ambassadors.

Navarro County Early Childhood Coalition

Chair of the health committee and meet monthly to plan educational programs for parents and educators with 30 members. Taught Child Car-Seat Safety Day with 60 participants, Healthy Child Week, 20 participants, Childcare appreciation week, 20 participants

Cooking Well With Friends

Was a multi-agent program conducted in person and virtually for District 8 areas. I partnered with Liz Espie. Ellis County and we had 12 participants, 6 in-person.

Virtual Grilling School

I hosted a virtual grilling school on Facebook live. I introduced the cut of the week and shared daily educational posts and recipes prepared by state specialists for a 4- week period to cover pork, beef, chicken, and fish. Over 100 tuned in to the grilling school.

Canning and Gardening Class

Held a canning and gardening class at the Cowboy Church led by Colleen Follen FCH McLennan and Bob Erickson, Master Gardner with 18 participants.

Annual Healthy County Shot Clinic and Catapult Screenings

With the assistance of Julie Wright, HR director, we provided the annual vaccine clinic plus 2 health screenings, 65 receiving flu shots and 70 receiving an onsite wellness exam.

STEM Education

Provided education for Boys and Girls Club STEM camp. Andrew Lewis and I taught 3 lessons over water conservation, robotics, and coding and provided science kits with online activities with 45 participants.

Navarro County COVID Testing and Vaccine Clinics

Volunteered with Kari Davis and **50 volunteers** weekly to assist with documentation of over **1500 vaccines** per week and organize lunch donations for volunteers March through May.

Thanks for allowing me the opportunity to update you on the Extension educational programming in Navarro County and the efforts being made by your county Extension agents Andrew and Lorie. They continue to provide programming which is in tune with our mission which is to provide quality, relevant outreach and continuing educational programs and services to the people of Texas. If you ever have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 254-968-4144 ext.204 or e-mail at donald.kelm@ag.tamu.edu.

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District Extension Administrator