Extension Education in Montague County

Making a Difference 2011
The Texas AgriLife Extension Service has been dedicated to serving Texans for nearly a century. The agency was established in 1915 under the Smith-Lever Act to deliver university knowledge and agricultural research findings directly to the people. Extension programs have continued ever since to address the emerging issues of the day, serving diverse rural and urban populations across the state.

Through a well-organized network of professional educators and more than 100,000 trained volunteers, Extension delivers practical research-based knowledge to Texans in all 254 counties. Our expertise and educational outreach pertain to the food and fiber industry, natural resources, family and consumer sciences, nutrition and health, and community economic development. Among those served are the hundreds of thousands of young people who benefit annually from Extension’s 4-H and youth development programs.

Texans turn to Extension for solutions. Its agents and specialists respond not only with answers, but also with resources and services that result in a significant return on investment to boost the Texas economy. The agency custom-designs its programs to each region of the state, relying on residents for input and for help with program delivery. Here are just a few highlights of Extension’s impacts on this county and its people:

### Montague County – Summary of Educational Contact

#### Educational Programs:
- Programs Presented- 242
- Participants- 21,931
- Contact Hours- 39,754

#### Educational Contacts:
- Office visits- 867
- Site contacts- 2113
- Phone calls- 2378
- E-mails- 8905
- Facebook Contacts- 1681

#### Media Outreach:
- News releases- 311
- Radio- 311

#### Volunteer Involvement:
- Clientele reached- 2855
- Volunteer hours- 641
Relevance: There are over 83 million acres of pasturelands in Texas and native rangelands serve as a vital resource in livestock production and for wildlife habitat. Control of noxious weeds and invasive brush species on native and improved pastures continues to be a challenge for landowners. Livestock producers should utilize range monitoring and proper stocking rates to improve sustainability and rangeland health. Montague County has 936 square miles in a mix of improved and native pastures with close to 40% of that being improved Bermuda. Landowners are constantly dealing with insects, drought, freeze, high prices of fertilizer, overgrazing, and the economy. It is a challenge each year to make ends meet and to still have a sustainable income source in production for cattle and/or hay. This year was extremely tough on the county producers as drought made some major impacts on production of cattle but mainly drought maintenance in such severe times.

Response: Due to the relentless conditions producers faced, programming changed to meet the need of the clientele in a drought stricken state. Texas Agrilife Extension Service in Montague County along with the Ag Committee helped to educate those who needed timely information and education. Educational programs, educational emails, and news releases were used to help educate the clients on how to deal with drought conditions as accustomed to their property and/or cattle. Total of 347 persons either participated, received educational letters, or farm visits to learn more about how they can overcome some of the questions on drought and resource management.

Results: The results of the 2011 Rangeland Management pre/post test during the Ag Producers Gathering in January, and Ag Producers Meeting in September are as follows. Understanding, Knowledge gained and Practices adopted were measured.

Ag Producers Gathering-115 attended
1. What Integrated Pest Management (IPM) means. BEFORE measured 53.5% Good understanding, AFTER improved to 93.9%
2. How to control Grasshoppers. BEFORE measured 38.9% Good understanding, AFTER improved to 97.3%
3. The life cycle of the Grasshopper. BEFORE measured 26.8% Good understanding, AFTER improved to 95.5%
4. How to ID Greenburg infestations in wheat. BEFORE measured 32.1% Good understanding, AFTER improved to 93.8%
5. The importance of Fertility. BEFORE measured 49.1% Good understanding, AFTER improved to 92.5%
6. The importance of having a Soil Analysis done on a regular basis. BEFORE measured 70.1% Good understanding, AFTER improved to 95.3%
7. How Fertility impacts forage Quality and Quantity. BEFORE measured 66.7% Good understanding, AFTER improved to 94.3%
8. Herbicides labeled for Sandbur control. BEFORE measured 29.2% Good understanding, AFTER improved to 91.7%
9. Rates and timing of labeled herbicides for Sandbur control. BEFORE measured 28.6% Good understanding, AFTER improved to 91.8%
10. Crop injury due to Sandbur herbicides. BEFORE measured 33.3% Good understanding, AFTER improved to 86.5%
11. Scouting pastures and wheat fields to identify insect infestations showed that 64.3% definitely will adopt after the educational programming efforts.
12. Reading insecticide labels to determine use of Rates and Crops approved for application showed that 53.6% definitely will adopt.
13. Reading insecticide labels to determine the Grazing and Harvest restrictions following use showed that 48.2% definitely will adopt.
14. Going on-line to access Agrilifebookstore.org to read bulletins on IPM showed that 84.3% definitely will adopt.
15. Use of pre-emerge herbicides for Sandbur control shows that 84% definitely will adopt.
16. Using post-emerge herbicides for Sandbur control shows that 78.5% definitely will adopt.
Ag Producers Meeting-28

1. Understanding of Overseeding-establishing winter pasture crops for grazing confirmed an excellent/good BEFORE score of 57.1% to an AFTER score of 100%.
2. Understanding of spring pasture management confirmed an excellent/good BEFORE score of 63% to an AFTER score of 100%.
3. Understanding of sacrificing pastures/areas for feeding confirmed an excellent/good BEFORE score of 37% to an AFTER score of 92.6%.
4. Understanding of how weather conditions change confirmed an excellent/good BEFORE score of 53.8% to an AFTER score of 92.3%.
5. Understanding of the difference between La Nina and El Nino confirmed an excellent/good BEFORE score of 50% to an AFTER score of 95.8%.
6. Understanding how feed stretch forage confirmed an excellent/good BEFORE score of 22.2% to an AFTER score of 96.3%.
7. Understanding some limitations of common by-product feeds confirmed an excellent/good BEFORE score of 3.7% to an AFTER score of 81.5%.
8. Understanding of feedstuffs to avoid when forage is limiting confirmed an excellent/good BEFORE score of 0% to an AFTER score of 81.5%.
9. Those that definitely will adopt winter pasture for spring grazing was at 10.7%.
10. Those that definitely will adopt and allow adequate pasture recovery in spring before grazing stood at 32.1%.
11. Those that definitely will adopt strategic use of sacrificing pastures/areas for feeding stood at 28.6%.
12. Persons who definitely will adopt the use of by-product feeds stood at 14.3%.
13. Clientele who definitely will adopt forage testing showed 32.1%.
14. Producers who definitely will adopt a limit feeding or limited access to hay stood at 32.1%.
15. Producers who definitely will adopt and be better prepared for drought in the future stood at 46.4%.

According to the 28 surveyed in this meeting showed that they managed over 20,000 acres with an estimated economic benefit to them at $106,125.
Relayed in the survey as well is that 76.9% of the participants found this program to be economically beneficial. 54.5% also reported that they anticipated an economic benefit due to reduced input costs.

Extension will continue to offer programs to clients who will need continuous updating and information to make better management decisions for future programs.
Montague County Extension would like to thank the following for helping in educational programs such as Legend Bank, Ozona Bank, Montague County Farm Bureau, Roth Fertilizer, Noble Foundation, City of Bowie, Sanger Bank, Marshal Rye, Ag Committee, USDA, Intervet, Dow Chemical, Wise County Electric, Bowie Bank, Citibank, and Montague County Commissioners Court.

For more information on this or any other program please contact Justin Hansard at 940.894.2831 or j-hansard@tamu.edu.
Relevance: Montague County is home to agriculture producers, farmers, and ranchers. The average agriculture annual market value is around $36 million. Beef cattle is the number one agriculture product raised here, followed by hay, wheat, dairies, pecans, peaches, melons, as well as wildlife. The county population hovers around 20,000 with close to 50% of the population living in rural areas. There are many approaches to reaching the public and clientele in educational programs that must focus on the overall production and guidelines to hedge their best management techniques in an ever changing environment.

Response As a result, the Montague County Ag Committee worked with county agent and other lead agencies in developing educational programming efforts. The program targeted the overall population of 500 agriculture producers in and around the county.

News Releases, provided to all media sources discussing upcoming or ongoing issues in the county in relation to agriculture production or management. 17 news releases.

Private Applicator’s Trainings, held five in-office trainings for 7 producers who needed to obtain their Private Applicator’s License. Each individual obtained a new license.

Farmer and Rancher Symposium is held annually in Gainesville in cooperation with Montague, Cooke, and Grayson counties to host an educational event as well as a CEU workshop for producers with a Private Applicator’s License. This has been the largest program to date with over 180 participants attending. 5 CEU’s offered.

North Texas Cattleman’s Round-up this event is a long standing traditional program aimed towards cattle producers in the area to give them pertinent information on events affecting the producer and cattle industry. This year provided information on how to manage and guide your cattle herd for the future. 255 persons attended.

Landowner Visits Agent is called out occasionally to visit with and guide new and/or established landowners on how they can better manage their properties. Agent has helped to identify plants, weeds, control of weeds, water management, pond establishment, re-planting of forages, death of forages, demonstration of cattle management, vaccinations, de-horning, worming, along with sprayer calibrations and how to figure spray rates and amounts. 71 different visits were made during the year.

Cattle Management Workshop As this year was a very bad year to feed cattle during the drought, it was best to know how to feed and what feedstuffs were available to producers. Noble Foundation was very productive in showing and relaying information to producers on the correct ways to feed and to be aware of the feed by-products out there. 30 producers attended.

Results In an ever-changing environment, the producer/farmer/rancher needs to be aware of how to save dollars, yet produce a valuable commodity. The programs reached 2282 persons receiving 1840 hours of education.

Summary During the educational programming efforts showed there is a definite need to continue to educate producers, farmers, and ranchers in the county. Thanks to the following persons: TCEQ, City of Bowie, Stan Bevers, Noble Foundation, Local banks, Local Electric Cooperatives, Bowie VFW, USDA offices, Roth Fertilizer, Wax Company, Intervet, Montague County Farm Bureau, Chambers of Commerce of Bowie and Nocona, Womack Ag, Winfield Solutions, Estes Chemical.

For more information on this or any other program please contact Justin Hansard at 940.894.2831 or j-hansard@tamu.edu.
Relevance  Homeowners have many questions throughout the year for CEA to answer about their home and garden horticultural needs. Typical topics of discussions include general horticulture, landscape design, disease, weed and insect management, water conservation and management, turf grass management, ornamental and shade trees. The Red River Master Gardeners of Montague County are now very active with 24 members and used their knowledge to reach others. Through workshops and seminars they hope to teach others and promote the Master Gardener program as well.

Response  In an effort to educate and update homeowners, agent worked with Red River Master Gardeners to develop programs that were educational and hands on. The program targeted over 2,500 homeowners in Montague County. The following programming efforts were given in 2011:

- **News Articles**, Five local media resources are used on a weekly basis to cover topics such as turf management, irrigation, plant selection, and gardening information. 14 news releases.
- **Result Demonstration**, Established a rose trial garden in Bowie to help educate persons on how to have Earth-Kind garden.
- **Homeowner Visits**, Visits were made monthly to homeowners requesting assistance in yard or gardening (49 personal visits)
- **Telephone Horticulture Visits**, Homeowners called almost daily during the growing season on questions about gardening, yard maintenance, plant selection, etc. (325 phone visits)
- **Red River Master Gardener Website**  The Red River Master Gardeners have created a new website for the public to use for web based help and sources.
- **Red River Master Gardeners**  This group of 24 members meets monthly to plan community programs. Agent meets with them every other month to update group on areas of interest or training.
- **Lawn and Garden Workshop**  Worked on request by the city of Nocona to contact speakers for a lawn and garden workshop in Nocona to focus on the Stage 3 drought the city is facing and how to handle that with the proper landscaping and water management. 10 persons attended.

Results  With an active group of Master Gardeners it is helpful to have a group that shares the same interest as the agent in learning to understand and work with the public. Homeowners continue to have questions on the lawns, landscaping, watering, etc. The help of volunteers and agent has helped reach 779 persons.

Summary  Education in Horticulture will continue in the future with the help of the Master Gardeners and the thirst for knowledge in these type programs. Plans are to continue with hands on programs and demonstrations to help provide the public with the tools and information they will need.

Acknowledgements  Thanks to the following persons in helping to present programs: Tony Vann, Joe Rodrigs, David Conaloff, Red River Master Gardeners, Leo and Dolly Orrell, Ozona National Bank, the City of Bowie, Dr. Jim McAfee, Dr. Joe Masabni, Billy Kniffen, and Dr. Chris Sansone.

For more information on this or any other program please contact Justin Hansard at 940.894.2831 or j-hansard@tamu.edu.
Improving the Health and Wellness in Montague County
Developed by Elsie M. Lacy-FCS

Food Protection Management
Montague County

Relevance
Each year, an estimated 1 in 6 people become ill from the food they eat. Common symptoms of foodborne disease include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramping, fever, and headache. While some people may view this as a mere case of “food poisoning,” foodborne illness has serious health and economic consequences. In fact, foodborne illnesses from five pathogens alone (Campylobacter, Salmonella, Listeria monocytogenes, E. coli O157:H7, and E. coli non-O157:H7 STEC) cost more than $6.9 billion in medical expenses, lost productivity, and even death. All of us are at risk for foodborne illness, but older adults, pregnant women, young children, individuals with chronic disease, and those with a compromised immune system are at an increased risk. Because nearly half of our food dollars are spent on foods eaten away from home, it is imperative that employees who work in retail food service handle food safely.

Response
To meet the need for quality food safety education in Texas retail food establishments, the Food Protection Management (FPM) program was developed. Our two-day certified food manager program prepares food service workers to sit for the state Certified Food Manager exam. Our 2-hour food handler program, which is accredited by the Department of State Health Services, trains front-line food service workers on the basic principles of food safety. Both programs are conducted at the county level by Extension agents.

Results
During 2011, 62 people in Montague County participated in the FPM program; 20 completed the certified food manager program and 42 completed the food handler program. Passage rate on the CFM exam was used to evaluate the CFM program. Change in knowledge (pre vs post) was used to evaluate the food handler program. Client (customer) satisfaction surveys were collected from participants for both programs.

Collaborators for both components of the FPM program were:

- **Texas Department of Health and Human Services** provided certification and recertification so that the accreditation of the CFM course remained in good standing. They also provided the exams and scored the exams following the class.
- **Texas AgriLife Extension Specialists** provided the curriculum needed to teach the course as well as provided training updates and regulation changes.
- **Area Food Service Establishments** helped to promote the CFM course and enrolled participants in our classes.
- **Local Health Inspector Donna Corcoran** helped to promote the courses and served as guest presenter.
- **Local Restaurants, Churches and School Districts** invited agents to conduct food handler’s classes for their volunteers and employees.
- **Area newspapers** in each county published news articles that provided information concerning upcoming classes as well as general information about food safety.
Certified Food Manager (CFM)
Participants were mostly female and Caucasian; more than half were 45 years of age or older. Managers and owners represented the largest percentages of participants. Among the participants, 55% (n=11) had a high school education or less; the rest had completed some college or earned a college degree. Half of the participants (n=10) had 5 years or less food service experience. Three out of four of the 20 participants had not received any food safety training within the previous 12 months.

Outcome of food manager course:
The primary outcome of the food manager course is passing the certified food manager exam. Of the 15 scores that we have received through October 8th, 12 of them (80%) passed the exam.

Client satisfaction with FPM instruction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client satisfaction with instructor’s knowledge of the subject.</th>
<th>Average Agent score (n=19)**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Client satisfaction with instructor’s speaking/presentation abilities.</td>
<td>1.2 + .37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client satisfaction with instructor’s organization and preparedness.</td>
<td>1.3 + .48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client satisfaction with instructor’s response to questions.</td>
<td>1.5 + .61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall client satisfaction with instructor performance</td>
<td>1.2 + .42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Based on participant surveys received and entered as of 10/8/2011. The client satisfaction survey was given at the end of the training while the survey that assessed client characteristics was given separately (at the beginning). Therefore, it is possible that not everyone completed both surveys.

Instructor satisfaction scores are based on a 5-point Likert Scale (1 = very satisfied to 5 = very dissatisfied). In other words the lower the number, the more satisfied the participant. Scores of 0 (not applicable) or 6 (no response) were not included in the analysis.

Food Handler Course
Participants were primarily female, Caucasian, and 35 years of age or older. Most (94%) preferred English and most had a high school degree or some college. More than 90% (n=32) of the participants had worked in food service and more than 62% (n=22) of all participants reported that they have received some type of food safety training in the past.

Unlike the CFM course, the food handler program does not require an exam to be given. However, we can assess program impact by examining change in knowledge that occurs as a result of the program.
Mean score and % score were both rounded to the nearest whole number.

Mean score pre - # answered correctly (average grade): 11 (77%) Mean score post - # answered correctly (average grade): 14 (90%)

There was a statistically significant increase in test scores (comparing pre vs post). This suggests that knowledge of targeted food safety principles increased as a result of what was learned in the program.

Percentage of respondents who answered survey questions correctly, pre and post.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>% correct pre*</th>
<th>% correct post</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Which of the following statements about serving food is true?</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Which of the following best describes proper hand and arm washing?</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The removal of dirt, soil, food or grease is known as:</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Which of the following statements about a hand washing sink is true?</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Which of the following people is most likely to contract a foodborne illness?</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Which of the following foods would not be considered potentially hazardous?</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Cross contamination happens when safe food comes into contact with:</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Which of the following statements best describes the temperature danger zone?</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Which of the following is an example of cross contamination?</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. All of the following are acceptable tools for handling ready-to-eat foods except:</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Which of the following food service employees must wear a hair net/restraint?</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Which of the following is the best example of maintaining personal hygiene?</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. A foodservice employee should immediately tell his/her supervisor if he/she has:</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Generally speaking a foodborne outbreak involves how many people?</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Food can be contaminated by:</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Percent rounded to the nearest whole number
**Client satisfaction with Food Handler course instruction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Average Score (n=35)**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Client satisfaction with instructor’s knowledge of the subject.</td>
<td>1.2 + .42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client satisfaction with instructor’s presentation of course material.</td>
<td>1.3+ .47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client satisfaction with instructor’s response to questions.</td>
<td>1.3 + .47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client satisfaction with instructor’s involvement in discussion and questions regarding course material.</td>
<td>1.3 + .44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall client satisfaction with instructor performance</td>
<td>1.2 + .43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall client satisfaction with the program.</td>
<td>1.3 + .44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Based on participant surveys received and entered as of 10/1/2011. The client satisfaction survey was given at the end of the training while the survey that assessed client characteristics was given separately (at the beginning). Instructor satisfaction scores are based on a 5-point Likert Scale (1 = very satisfied to 5 = very dissatisfied). In other words the lower the number, the more satisfied the participant. Scores of 0 (not applicable) or 6 (no response) were not included in the analysis.**

**Better Living for Texans (BLT)**

**Relevance**

**Importance to County**

According to the Statistical Data Chart for BLT Reference 8% of Montague County populations are food stamp recipients and 6,555 county residents are potentially eligible at 185% or lower of the Federal Poverty Income Level. Research suggests that limited resource individuals consume diets that are not in agreement with current dietary recommendations (i.e. Dietary Guidelines and Food Guide), potentially increasing their risk for developing chronic disease.

**Role Education Can Play in Addressing Issue**

With limited resources of a small community it is important that Extension provides educational programs that help the target audience improve their overall diet quality and increase their level of physical activity.

**Where Issue Was Identified**

The Montague County Health Board and Family Consumer Sciences Committee identified the need for nutritional programs to improve the health of low income residents.

**Target Audiences**

Goldberg ISD, Saint Jo ISD, Montague ISD, Bowie ISD Even Start, Nocona ISD Head Start, Nocona Senior Citizen center, and Bowie Senior Citizen Project. Material was provided in English and Spanish for Hispanic Even Start participants, but most preferred English to increase language skills.
Response
These series were conducted monthly by County Extension agent, Elsie Lacy and BLT assistant, Windee Edwards. Texas AgriLife Extension in Montague County conducted the following activities to address these issues:
1. Eat Better to Live Better series
2. Get the Facts series
3. Dinner Time Dilemma
4. Portion Distortion
5. Back to Basics
6. Sisters in Health
7. Eat Smart
8. Balancing Food and Play
Bowie, Goldberg, Montague, Saint Jo, and Nocona Educators and the senior citizen centers administrators contributed greatly to the success of these BLT outcomes.

Evaluation Strategy: A Pre and Post Survey was used to evaluate the Balancing Food & Play curriculum related to the following four educational constructs:

- snacking on fruits and vegetables,
- drinking milk with meals and water with snacks,
- encouraging 60 minutes of physical activity each day, and
- limiting screen time to two hours or less per day.

Target Audiences
Saint Jo Elementary grade classroom
Montague Elementary classroom

Results:
Pre-Survey 71
Post- Survey 67

- The percentage of students who correctly identified 60 minutes as the recommended amount of daily physical activity increased from 59% (42) to 87% (58).
- The percentage of students who correctly identified 2 hours as the recommended screen time limit increased from 17% (12) to 58% (39).
- The percentage of students who correctly identified the amount of fruits and vegetables on dinner plate increased from 27% (19) to 52% (35).
- The percentage of students who reported having more than 2 hours of screen time decreased from 28% (20) to 7% (5).
- The percentage of students who reported having one hour or more of physical activity increased from 58% (41) to 65% (44).

Student Comments
- I learned that we need less than two hours of screen time and at least 60 minutes of physical activity.
- I play 60 minutes a day.
- Not drinking Dr. Peppers.
- I eat fruit now.
- To drink milk with your lunch
- I watch how much food I eat.
Other FCS highlights included programs
- ”Married and Loving It!”
- Court ordered Life Skills 101 for probation participants
- Court Ordered Parenting classes

Advisor support for the Texas Extension Education Association (TEEA) with the following educational program and event.
- Connecting Generations
- Talking to Your Doctor
- Annual Fall Bazaar

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Montague County Family and Consumer Sciences Committee and the Health Partnership of Montague County provides direction and support for these and other programs that impact quality of life in the county:

Deborah Johnson    Rebecca Dickson    Vicky Cole
Jackie Lowrie      Valorie Stout      June Brown
Ginger Johnson     Jane Scharwz

INTERPRETATION
These programs were interpreted to Commissioner’s Court, Health Partnership of Montague County, Leadership Advisory Board, and School Administrators.
2011 Montague County 4-H Project Program Results

Summary developed by Justin Hansard, CEA-Ag/NR and Elsie Lacy, CEA-FCS

**Relevance:** With the ever changing ways of society it is important to teach and educate youth on the primary goals in life. Education on acceptable management practices, personal character, and ethics are important issues. In order to increase awareness of proper ethics, community involvement, health and safety, along with food production, it is important to educate our youth on current practices and awareness within our society. Raising show animals is not only for exposition, but also for consumers, by the same token being healthy is a life choice, and a decision not made easily among youth. These programs have a purpose to prepare youth to meet the challenges of childhood, adolescence, and adulthood, through a coordinated, long-term, progressive series of educational experiences through life skills and develop social, emotional, physical, and cognitive competencies.

**Response:** As a result, the County Extension Agent’s in Montague County worked with the Volunteer Leaders Association of 14 members, club managers, and volunteers to develop programs to address the issues identified above. These programs were targeted towards 4-H youth and their families that are involved in exhibiting livestock, consumer practices, food safety, and community awareness at the local, county, and state levels. Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Montague County developed these programs to address this audience:

- **4-H Scholarships**, one youth from Forestburg received $16,000 in scholarships from the years of hard work and participation in the 4-H program here in the county. Montague county 4-H youth have received over $136,000 in scholarships in the last ten years.

- **Monthly Club Meetings**, the county has currently 9 clubs from seven community clubs to two project clubs, swine and shotgun. The enrollment stays steady this year around 260 members under the supervision of 12 club managers and assistant managers.

- **4-H Record books**, In 2011 there were 22 members completing an annual summarization of their 4-H Activities, Projects, Leadership, Awards, and Community Service, along with writing a story of their past year experiences. At District competition 7 books placed 1st, 4-2nd, 4-3rd, and 4-4th. Two seniors went on to State completion with one placing 1st and being honoured with a trip to Washington D.C. over the Thanksgiving holiday. These record books go on to help fill out 4-H Scholarship applications as seniors.

- **District/State 4-H Roundup, (24 youth and adults)** attended this one day district event where youth have a chance to make an oral education presentation, show there singing, dancing, vocal, or theatrical talents. A senior team qualified to compete at the state contest in College Station with a presentation on Hydroponics placing second its division and winning a cash prize.

- **“4-H One Day” (89 participants)** This is a county wide project in which community clubs joined in unison with other clubs across the state that were active in reaching out to help communities in areas of beatification, sewing project in which 4-H’ers made and presented 122 pillowcases for the residents of Bellmire Healthcare Facility in Bowie and collected over $5,353.92 in supplies for Operation Supply Drop to help the firemen and women across the state fighting the wildfires and presented to Fire Departments in county. This included 25 cases of water, 100 cases of Gatorade, 264 cases of Propel,219 peanut butter crackers, 100 Slim Jims, 12 Beef Jerky, 48 pkgs. peanuts, 32-cereal bars, 54 protein bars and 74-lip balm.

- **County Camp-Brownwood (16 youth/parents)** attended County camp at the Texas 4-H Conference Center. The camp is designed to provide an opportunity for youth to experience summer camp while enjoying the advantage of meeting youth from across the State. Participants enjoyed the climbing wall, drama, riflery, archery, arts and crafts, games, special events and more!
4-H and Youth Development

- **4-H Awards Banquet (110 youth/parents)** Each year it is vital to recognize the accomplishments that the 4-H youth and leaders have completed during the previous year. Awards are given in record books, top junior, intermediate, and senior youth. Club Managers are also recognized for their hard work and dedication to the youth. A county business and individual are recognized for their support of the 4-H program.

- **Montague County 4-H Facebook (56 friends)** This resource is used to provide updates and blogs about the county 4-H programs and activities, covering all dates of upcoming programs, lists of deadlines for all shows, contests, and activities, recognition of youth achievements, and a calendar of all 4-H events.

- **4-H Blogs (358 email addresses)** Weekly blogs covering all dates of upcoming programs, lists of deadlines for all shows, contests, and activities, recognition of youth achievements, and a calendar of all 4-H events.

### 4-H Youth and Family Consumer Sciences

- **Project Leader Trainings (3)** Trainings held throughout the year helped to establish a trained leader base so that they could in turn distribute and help maintain youth interest in overall projects. Those include food, sewing, consumer decision, and Nutrition Quiz bowl.

- **4-H Field Trips (24 youth/parents)** Two educational field trips were taken during the summer to keep interest in the 4-H programs. The tours included Central Market and a trip to the land of Uz—a former historical town in Montague County.

- **Sewing Workshop (20 youth)** Youth had a chance to learn sewing techniques from drawing a design to working a sewing machine. They made pillowcases for One day 4-H project and a chef’s hat and apron to take home with them.

- **Foods Workshop (22 youth)** 2 workshops were held where the youth learned how to make measurements, cook food, and make healthy lifestyle decisions on shopping for food.

- **Fashion and Storyboard County and District Contest (252 youth/Adult Volunteers)** Youth have the opportunity to show their skills in sewing and design of fabrics for outfits of their choice. They also have a chance to comparison shop so that they buy the right product for the right reasons. Montague County hosted the District Fashion show in Bowie with VLAT providing lunch and Montague County TEEA clubs providing coffee and homemade baked goods in the morning.

- **Food Show (8 youth)** Giving the current state of unhealthy choices in America, youth can now learn how to buy, shop, and cook for themselves, giving them the correct instruments to make great choices.

- **Food Challenge (14 youth)** Modeled after such competitions as the Food Network’s Iron Chef, the 4-H Food Challenge allows teams of three to five 4-H members to create a dish using a predetermined set of ingredients. From these ingredients, 4-H members must identify, prepare and then present information related to the preparation process, nutritional value, serving size and cost of the dish. Throughout this process, 4-H members are applying the knowledge and skills gained through participation in the 4-H foods and nutrition project, demonstrating their culinary and food safety skills, and continuing to learn about making healthier food choices.

- **Consumer Decision Making (12 youth/parents)** This activity gives youth the chance to evaluate consumer items based on scenarios such as amount of money, quality, use of product, and other comparisons to make decisive choices as a future consumer.

- **Montague County 4-H and FCCLA Youth Fair Board (16 Adult Volunteers)** This board meets at least four times a year to plan and implement the Home Economics Division of the county show each January. Over 200 youth annually participate with over 400 entries in food, fabric construction, creative arts and photography.
**District Nutrition Quiz Bowl (17 youth/parents)** The Food & Nutrition Quiz Bowl is a team activity that helps participants learn core concepts of nutrition, food preparation, and food safety. Clubs can use this “game show” activity as an effective and fun teaching method any time during the year. Teams can also compete in the quiz bowl contest that is held in conjunction with District 11 4-H Roundup.

**Results:** As a result of the 4-H programming efforts by the agents in Ag and FCS along with the many volunteers and leaders that support the county program, youth are given a chance to learn, participate, and then imply what they have learned. This in turn will provide leaders among their peers at a young age and give them the hands on activities to make them succeed. This information will be shared with leaders, volunteers, county boards, civic clubs, Commissioner’s Court, as well as the youth and their parents. Leadership is Influence.

**Acknowledgements:** The county agents would like to thank the leaders and volunteers who make the 4-H program strong in Montague county as well as the Commissioner’s Court for providing the office space, travel, and verbal support of the agents to work with such great leaders and volunteers.
2011 Montague County Quality Counts-Outcome
Developed by Justin Hansard, CEA-Ag/NR, and Elsie Lacy, CEA-FCS, Montague County

Relevance: Texas has the highest participation totals in 4-H and FFA livestock projects in the country. In 2006, there were over 89,000 market and breeding entries for cattle, sheep, swine, and goats across the state and (Coufal, 2007). These figures have continually climbed over the last decade and into the new millennium. Thus, Quality Counts in Texas has been developed for 4-H and FFA members who participate in these livestock project areas. Quality Counts in Texas is a program for 4-H and FFA youth across Texas that exhibit livestock projects. This includes such market and breeding projects as beef cattle, sheep, swine, and goats. The purpose of Quality Counts in Texas is to provide an opportunity for youth across Texas to learn personal character attributes and acceptable livestock management practices associated with these projects. This unique combination of subject matter should result in the exhibition of the highest quality livestock projects by youth with unsurpassed character and ethics. Ultimately, this program will be an integral part of the junior livestock program. This will eventually lead to a safer, more wholesome nutritious product that is fed by responsible youth of Texas who are dedicated to providing the best meat products for consumers.

Response: Texas Agrilife Extension Service in Montague County has taken a proactive step towards Quality Counts in Texas is to provide an opportunity for youth across the county to learn personal character attributes and acceptable livestock management practices associated with livestock projects. Training was done in 4-H club meetings, newsletters, and Facebook along with Quality Counts training in Cooke County were used to educate the participants. A pre and post test was given by TurningPoint software during the Quality Counts Training October 22nd. 56 participants responded to the pre and post test. 26 participants were male compared to 30 females. 57% of the participants were between 8 and 14 years of age. 67% of the participants have been involved in 4-H/FFA between 1-5 years. 22% of youth were home schooled compared to 78% public/private school.

Results: The results of 2011 Quality Counts are as follows:

1. Intramuscular injections (IM) should be given to show animals in the ________. Answer-Neck. Increase of knowledge by 52% from 36% correct BEFORE to 89% correct AFTER.
2. A subcutaneous (SQ) injection is one that is given directly into the muscle. Answer-False. Increase of knowledge by 38% from 38% correct BEFORE to 76% correct AFTER.
3. The period of time that an animal should be “off” medicated feed before a show is determined by: Answer-Feed Label. Increase of knowledge by 32% from 46% correct BEFORE to 78% correct AFTER.
4. During 2000, how many pounds of carcass were produced by Texas livestock show market swine, goats, lambs, and steers? Answer-16 million pounds. Increase of knowledge by 30% from 34% correct BEFORE to 64% correct AFTER.
5. You should get feeding instructions: Answer-From the tag. Increase of knowledge by 27% from 67% correct BEFORE to 94% correct AFTER.
6. Using a drug for pneumonia to treat ringworms without consulting a veterinarian is an example of: Answer-Neck. Increase of knowledge by 26% from 56% correct BEFORE to 82% correct AFTER.
7. Electronic prods, buzzers, or slappers should be used to handle animals. Answer-False. Increase of knowledge by 20% from 72% correct BEFORE to 92% correct AFTER.
8. Showing with sportsmanship will always bring in a blue ribbon. Answer-False. Increase of knowledge by 20% from 60% correct BEFORE to 80% correct AFTER.
9. All livestock project participants are involved in food safety. Answer: True. Increase of knowledge by 18% from 80% correct BEFORE to 98% correct AFTER.

10. Personal skills gained from exhibiting livestock include self-motivation and character development. Answer: True. Increase of knowledge by 13% from 83% correct BEFORE to 96% correct AFTER.

11. Youth exhibiting market livestock projects are considered producers in the food supply continuum. Answer: True. Increase of knowledge by 8% from 81% correct BEFORE to 89% correct AFTER.

12. Meat from livestock projects are consumed by the general public. Answer: True. Increase of knowledge by 8% from 85% correct BEFORE to 93% correct AFTER.

13. It is okay to administer drugs not labeled for specific species. Answer: False. Increase of knowledge by 7% from 87% correct BEFORE to 94% correct AFTER.

14. It is not the producer’s responsibility to produce a safe meat product. Answer: False. Increase of knowledge by 6% from 87% correct BEFORE to 93% correct AFTER.

15. Animal health products are used: Answer: To prevent or treat illness or injury. Increase of knowledge by 6% from 80% correct BEFORE to 86% correct AFTER.

16. Which of the following are necessary for proper animal care? Answer: Clean fresh water, shelter/shade/ and nutrition. Increase of knowledge by 2% from 94% correct BEFORE to 96% correct AFTER.

17. A good rule of thumb is to know the weight of your project so you know how much to feed. Answer: True. Increase of knowledge by 2% from 89% correct BEFORE to 91% correct AFTER.

18. A withdrawal time is: Answer: The length of time required for a particular medication to leave the body. Knowledge decreased by 4% from 87% correct BEFORE to 83% correct AFTER.

19. A broken needle is one type of a chemical hazard. Answer: False. Knowledge decreased by 13% from 30% correct BEFORE to 17% correct AFTER.

20. It is okay to use an off label drug even if you have permission from a veterinarian. Answer: False. There was no increase or decrease in knowledge.

Results also show from participants needing to take the Quality Counts Verification test, Montague County had 85 complete and pass the test with an 80% score. This shows that the Quality Counts is a very useful tool while conducting programs in and around the county. Participants are grateful and much more educated on how they fit into the query of the food continuum. Plans are to continue to educate the youth and adults on how they can make a difference while still enjoying the fun of showing animal projects, which in turn will lead to better leaders.

We would like to thank the following sponsors in the Quality Counts Outcomes: Montague County Commissioners Court, Cooke County Commissioners Court, Dangelmayr Brothers Ranch, Dangelmayr Show Goats, Bud and Lynn Peters, TPG Consulting, Brookshire’s of Bowie, Fischer’s Meat Market, Chesapeake Specialty Products, Muenster ISD, and of course all the adult and teen volunteers.

For more information on this or any other program please contact Justin Hansard or Elsie Lacy at 940.894.2831 or j-hansard@tamu.edu or emlacy@ag.tamu.edu.
Relevance: Reaching youth during their peak learning curve is important to instill in them that learning is still fun. This is a chance to reach those youth and teach them while they are learning more about the environment around them, especially wildlife. “Something’s Fishy” is a great learning module that has been used state wide. Basic Educational Costs per Student may continue to drop with the continuation of the economy. With drop in money being spent per student, there is a need to use outside resources for the teacher to help educate their students. Texas Agrilife Extension Service in Montague County has been able to fill this void by using such modules as “Something’s Fishy”, and other visual aid programs to instill excitement in learning.

Response: Texas Agrilife Extension here in Montague County has been proactive in working with the schools to provide a different mode of educating youth in wildlife. Working with the Nocona school district is a great partnership. A pre and post test evaluation was conducted before and after the module and teaching. After the two week period of teaching we measured the difference in related knowledge. 100% of the students were tested as a result of the evaluations. 44 students were part of the program.

Results: The results of the “Something’s Fishy” educational program is as follows: There was an increase in mean score from 62.5 to 92.5 overall in the program.

*Which of the following describes a predator? Answer: Large eyes and large mouth. Increase of knowledge by 40% from 50% correct BEFORE to 90% correct AFTER.

*If a fish is anadromous, then it: Answer: Lives in the ocean but returns to freshwater to spawn. Increase of knowledge by 55% from 45% correct BEFORE to 100% correct AFTER.

*How many kinds of species of fish are there? Answer: 21,000. Increase of knowledge by 55% from 35% correct BEFORE to 90% correct AFTER.

*Photosynthesis is the process where green plants use sunlight to produce: Answer: Oxygen. Increase of knowledge by 30% from 70% correct BEFORE to 100% correct AFTER.

*Acid rain happens when harmful gases release by cars and smoke stacks mix with rain, and cause low __________ that kills fish. Answer: pH. Increase of knowledge by 50% from 50% correct BEFORE to 100% correct AFTER.

*The work aquaculture means: Answer: Farming fish. Increase of knowledge by 25% from 40% correct BEFORE to 60% correct AFTER.

*Examples of saving water, also called water conservation include: Answer: Taking a shower instead of a bath. Increase of knowledge by 30% from 65% correct BEFORE to 95% correct AFTER.
*Water pollution can be caused by: Answer: Dumping used motor oil in the sewer. Increase of knowledge by 15% from 85% correct BEFORE to 100% correct AFTER.

*Fishing is a fun sport, but it is important to practice safety. Examples of safety around water include: Answer: Wearing a life jacket. There was no significant increase of knowledge.

*The hydrologic cycle describes: Answer: How water circulates through clouds, rivers, and oceans. Increase of knowledge by 10% from 85% correct BEFORE to 95% correct AFTER.

Summary: After visiting with the Heather Nobile, Nocona Elementary teacher, she was very pleased with the module and would look at doing another type of program in the future. Other programs discussed were the wildlife and endangered species modules. The program results interpreted with Heather Nobile and Nocona ISD so they are aware of the success. Results will also be discussed with the Commissioners Court, Youth Board, and other civic organizations.

Acknowledgements: We would like to thank Heather Nobile, and Nocona ISD in support of the Texas Agrilife Extension Service here in Montague County.

For more information on this or any other program please contact Justin Hansard at 940.894.2831 or j-hansard@tamu.edu.
Relevance: In 2000 there were over 75,000 county livestock show entries for cattle, swine, meat goats and sheep (Coufal, 2006). One half of those entries were 4-H. There have been six major benefits identified as a result of exhibiting livestock: 1. social relations; 2) character; 3) family; 4) competition; 5) learning new cultures and environments; and 6) helping finance the youth's higher education. Parents of youth suggest that life skills are enhanced by raising a 4-H livestock project. The longer youth are engaged in the project they are more likely to develop life skills (Boleman, 2003). Montague County has over 250 4-H youth involved in every aspect of the program. 90% of the youth show an animal project of some kind.

Response: Provide opportunities for youth to be involved in 4-H Livestock related projects and exhibit personal character attributes and acceptable livestock management practices associated with these projects. They will be able to work with agent, volunteers, and mentors to help develop their skills with the show animal project. Swine mentor, Pat Williams, will be used to operate as Club Manager for the Swine Club.

*Project Leader Trainings*, with the need to have volunteers help become more active they need to be better equipped and versed in the livestock show industry. By visiting with these individuals agent is able to lead them in a direction that will benefit the youth.

*Montague County Youth Fair*, this one annual event cumulates 100% of the active show project youth. This past year had an entry of over 1000 entries involving over 350 youth, most of which were 4-H projects. This year’s premium money paid out exceeded $130,000.

*Major Stock Show’s*, another annual event in which youth get to attend their choice of Ft. Worth, San Antonio, San Angelo, Houston, State Fair of Texas and Star of Texas. Entries to the 2011 shows from Montague County expanded to 98. Youth were successful in showing for the experience with one youth receiving a $10,000 scholarship.

*Beef Cattle Clinic*, beef cattle continue to play an important role in the county even at the youth level. This year there were over 80 head of cattle exhibited. The clinic gave those youth and volunteers a chance to pass on their knowledge to younger and upcoming families who might express the same interest.

*Livestock Judging*, currently there are 13 youth who are participating in the livestock judging contest around the state. They have placed high in most contests, but most of all they learn the skill of reasoning and being able to give oral reasons to justify their placings of the animals.

*Swine Skill-a-thon*, youth have a chance to compete at San Antonio and State Fair of Texas to try and earn scholarships and gain knowledge about the swine industry. Montague County has a participation rate of 8 youth per contest.

*Livestock Validations*, across the county youth will validate their livestock project animals to exhibit at the majors. 2011 had 22 steers, 15 sheep, 72 goats, and 75 swine validated.

*4-H Clubs*, the county has currently 9 clubs from seven community clubs to two project clubs, swine and shotgun. The enrollment stays steady this year around 260 members under the supervision of 12 club managers and assistant managers.
*Sheep/Goat Clinic*, with the number of sheep and goat projects in the county close to 100 there is need to host programming to help educate the youth and parents on this project. Programs were held by clubs/agent/volunteers to help with the questions attracting over 25 youth.

*Ag in the Classroom*, this annual event educates all 4th grade youth from Montague County. The program instills the importance of Agriculture in their everyday life. Help from county youth, volunteers, Montague County Farm Bureau, USDA, and Bowie High School helped us reach over 340 youth.

**Results:** Youth and agriculture has been very strong in the county for 2011. Show projects continue to lead the way for youth to gain leadership, responsibility, and enhance their life skills. Out of the 250 youth 85% show projects and continue to work towards their future goals.

**Summary:** During the year’s events youth have continued to grow and show progress with their animal projects. Agents would like to thank all the volunteers, leaders and businesses who have made the 4-H program in Montague County continue to grow and make better citizens out of our youth.

For more information on this or any other program please contact Justin Hansard or Elsie Lacy at 940.894.2831 or j-hansard@tamu.edu or emlacy@ag.tamu.edu.
TAKE A STAND: Conflict Management and Bullying Prevention Program
Developed by Elsie M. Lacy-FCS

RELEVANCE
Bullying is an issue that has been prevalent for years but an increase of bullying activity has occurred in recent years. Bullying happens when someone hurts or scares another person on purpose and the person being bullied has a hard time defending himself or herself. Examples of bullying include physical violence, spreading rumors, keeping people out of a particular group, teasing, ganging up on someone, cyber bullying such as texting, posting mean information or pictures on a social networking site, blog or personal web page.
According to the Journal of the American Medical Association (April 25, 2001), nearly 1/3 of students surveyed reported that they experience bullying, either as a target or as a perpetrator. More than 16% said that they had been bullied at least occasionally during the current school year. The frequency of bullying was higher among 6th-through 8th grade students than among 9th and 10th grade students. Eight percent reported bullying or being bullied at least once a week. Children, who reported they were bullied, reported more loneliness and difficulty making friends. Those who did the bullying were more likely to have low grades, smoke, and drink alcohol.
The Texas legislature feels that conflict management and bullying are important for schools to address, and have passed mandates through House Bills 283 and 121 and Senate Bill 136. House Bill 283 requires a school district’s discipline management program to include prevention of and education concerning unwanted physical or verbal aggression, sexual harassment, and other forms of bullying in school, on school grounds, and in school vehicles. This legislation is the foundation of the Take A Stand curriculum for all grade levels. House Bill 121 addresses the need for education related to dating violence. This topic is included in the 9th-12th grade curriculum. Senate Bill 136 addresses education related to social networking and internet safety. This topic is addressed in the 6th – 8th grade curriculum and also touched on in the 9th -12th grade curriculum.

RESPONSE
Take A Stand lessons focus on five topics: 1 lesson per topic:
- conflict resolution and bullying
- communication
- etiquette
- teamwork
- cultural awareness.

There are three levels of the curriculum which target the following grade levels: 3-5th grade, 6-8th grade, and 9-12th grade.
In October 2010 Goldberg ISD students participated in Take a Stand anti-bullying program in honor of drug awareness and Red Ribbon week for grades 3-5 and 6-8. Lesson facilitated by County AgriLife Extension agent, Elsie Lacy.
Response Rate
20 of 22 (91%) participants completed the survey.

RESULTS
A post survey was administered to gather information from the youth participants. Respondents were as follows:
6-8 grade respondents – 22 participants from Goldberg

Behavior Changes
The 6-8th grade participants indicated the following results because of what they experienced and learned from the Take A Stand Pilot Program:
1. 9 of 20 (45%) “always” or” often” can identify the characteristics of a bully.
2. 10 of 20 (50.1%) “always” or” often” avoids becoming a bully.
3. 7 of 20 (35%) “always” or” often” uses communication to work out problems.
4. 4 of 20 (20%) “always” or” often” uses peer mediation to avoid conflict.
5. 12 of 20 (60%) “always” or” often” can identify a cyber bully.
6. 15 of 20 (75%) “always” or” often” avoids using cyber bullying to deal with conflict.
7. 11 of 20 (55%) “always” or” often” can identify roles of team members.
8. 8 of 20 (40%) “always” or” often” uses teamwork to solve problems.
9. 13 of 20 (65%) “always” or” often” appreciates people for their differences.
10. 9 of 20 (45%) “always” or” often” will get to know someone before judging them.
11. 16 of 20 (80%) were “completely” or” mostly” satisfied with the program.
12. 16 of 20 (80%) “completely” or” mostly” felt that the activities were enjoyable.
13. 13 of 20 (65%) “completely” or” mostly” felt that the information was easy to understand.
14. 15 of 20 (75%) were “completely” or” mostly” satisfied with the range of topics covered.
15. 17 of 20 (85%) were “completely” or” mostly” satisfied with the instructor’s response to questions

Student Comments
- Not to bully or cyber bully
- That if your getting bullied that does not mean you can bully back
- Not to bully and to help and stand up for others.
- Not to bully others because you don’t know how they feel.
- Be respectful
- To be a better person.

Summary: After visiting with administrators at Goldburg ISD they were very pleased with the program and express the need for this type of program in the future. The program results interpreted with Goldburg ISD so they are aware of the success. Results will also be discussed with the Commissioners Court, Youth Board, and other civic organizations.

Acknowledgements: We would like to thank Goldburg ISD in support of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service here in Montague County.
2011 Montague County Community Resource and Economic Development

Developed by Justin Hansard, CEA-Ag/NR, and Elsie Lacy, FCS, Montague County

**Relevance:** In a small rural county economic growth and development is important to keep the local economy going. Texas AgriLife Extension Service provides educational programs in community and economic development to enhance the quality of life for the residents in Texas. Community Development programming targets the development of individual abilities and community support for creating and growing businesses, jobs, wealth and income. Keeping in mind all of this, we must work together for the good of the citizens.

**Response:** Agents work with various groups, civic clubs, and task force to promote growth and strength in local attractions. We must provide leadership to local planning groups to help facilitate educational programs and secure resources to address community and economic development needs. Develop new community leaders that can effectively lead organizations and communities.

* **Leadership Montague County** - As a result of visiting with and working with the county judge, local EDC’s there was a need to develop a Leadership program for the county. The challenge was to create a program where everyone was involved, welcome, and actively engaging. Visits from other Leadership programs gave us a chance to focus on how Montague needed to be set up. A board of 7 board members drives the program with currently 13 attended classes on a monthly basis.

* **Health Partnership of Montague County** - This board meets monthly to discuss and plan for the county’s needs and the well being of the general population. Events include Health Fairs in Bowie and Nocona, Do Well, Be Well diabetes programs, vaccination clinics, shelter clinics for abused, and pregnancy clinic.

* **Farm Bureau Board** - The board meets eleven times a year to discuss and plan for the needs of the farmer and rancher here is Montague. Ag agent is a board member and serves as a youth activities chairman to the board.

* **Chambers of Commerce** - Agents work closely with the local Chambers of Commerce to help plan and involve others in the community development. Facilitated “Texas Friendly” program for Bowie Chamber of Commerce breakfast (21 Adults attended)

* **Red River Master Gardeners** - This club meets monthly to visit on the different community services they can provide through education, demonstrations, and improvements to the community, and programming efforts. Currently has 22 active members and hosted a Master Gardener training in the fall.

* **Lions Club** - Discuss and update members on who Texas Agrilife Extension and the various programs we offer and how we can help in community efforts. (Bowie, Nocona)

* **Rotary Club** - Discuss and update members on who Texas Agrilife Extension and the various programs we offer and how we can help in community efforts. (Bowie, Nocona)

* **Kiwanas Club** - Discuss and update members on who Texas Agrilife Extension and the various programs we offer and how we can help in community efforts. (Bowie)
**Results:** Agents continue to build relationships with various leaders and organizations from across the county. This involvement has produced leaders through partnership. Each level of community connection provides us with a new aspect on making the communities stronger and interaction continues to develop. An Issue Identification Workshop was held in the spring of 2011 with key issues brought up by invested persons. Those issues are what will help dictate programs for the future. Leadership Montague County has given us the opportunity to work with others outside extension that also has a drive to better their community.

**Summary:** Agents will continue to work with communities and the leaders as the 2012 year goes by. We are very pleased with the support and leadership the county volunteers have shown in trying to make a difference one day at a time.

For more information on this or any other program please contact Justin Hansard or Elsie Lacy at 940.894.2831 or j-hansard@tamu.edu or emlacy@ag.tamu.edu.
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