

# Ector County 4-H Monthly Newsletter



September 2025

Ector County Extension Office ~ (432) 498-4071 ~ Fax (432) 498-4044  
1010 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 102 ~ <http://ector.agrilife.org/>



## Welcome to the Ector County 4-H Newsletter!

We are excited to introduce our brand-new monthly newsletter as a way to keep our 4-H families, members, and community up-to-date and connected. Each month, you'll find important dates, project information, upcoming events, and opportunities to get involved. We'll also celebrate the hard work and accomplishments of our 4-H members and highlight all the great things happening within Ector County 4-H.

Our goal is to make this newsletter a valuable resource for you whether you're looking for project updates, reminders, or a place to see 4-H achievements recognized. We can't wait to share the journey ahead with you as we continue to grow, learn, and make the best better!

Thank you for being a part of Ector County 4-H.  
Let's make this year one to remember!

### In this newsletter you can expect:

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Community  
Club Updates

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Important Dates

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4-H Projects

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Additional  
Information

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Fundraising  
Information

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Extension Office

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## Community Club News

The 2025-2026 year is off to a great start! New officers have been elected, and we will celebrate with an Installation Ceremony on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

Project meetings will be starting soon, so please keep an eye out for dates and times of each informational meeting. If you're interested in learning more about a specific project, feel free to contact the project leader. A full list can be found at the back of this newsletter.



We're excited about all the things in the works for this year! Fun presentations at our monthly club meetings, a community service challenge, clinics for different 4-H projects, and a lot of fun along the way!

Don't forget... open enrollment for the 2025-2026 4-H year is officially underway! Be sure to get registered and spread the word to friends and family who may be interested in joining. You must be enrolled before you can participate in any of the projects. Project leaders and any parents who would like to volunteer must enroll as well.

### 2025 - 2026

#### 4-H OFFICERS

*Congratulations to our newly elected 2025-26 Ector County 4-H Officers!*

President - Raelynn Clinton  
Vice-President - Sophie Juarez  
Secretary - MaKalya Puffinbarger  
Treasurer - Brazos Harding  
Reporter - Madison Puffinbarger  
Parliamentarian - Lola Harding  
Health & Safety - Porter Gault

#### Adult Leaders

Congratulations to our newly elected 2025-26 Ector County Adult Leader Officers!

President - Amy Spain  
Vice-President - Kristin Davis  
Secretary - Katie Puffinbarger  
Treasurer - Kema Clinton

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### SEPTEMBER 2025

- 8/29 - 9/7 - Permian Basin Fair
- 9/5 - Last day to order Lamb and Goat tags without late fee
- 9/9 - 2025-2026 Officer Installation Ceremony followed by the 4-H Kick-Off event @6:30 pm at the PAL building at Floyd Gwin Park
- 9/16 - ECLA meeting @ 7pm at the extension office meeting room
- 9/19 - Last day to order Swine tag orders without late fee
- 9/23 - Commissioners Court for the new 4-H officers @ 10 am
- 10/6 - General 4-H Club Meeting at 6 pm
  - Spaghetti dinner at this meeting

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## Project Information



### Food & Nutrition

In the Food & Nutrition project, members learn important life skills such as cooking, meal planning, food safety, and healthy eating habits. Youth get hands-on experience in the kitchen while exploring nutrition, wellness, and even food science. This project helps build confidence, creativity, and leadership skills.



### Fashion/Sewing

In the Fashion and Sewing project, members learn sewing skills, fabric selection, and clothing care while exploring creativity and personal style. It's a fun way to build confidence and create unique pieces to showcase in different events and contests.



### Livestock Project

The Livestock project teaches members how to raise and care for animals such as cattle, sheep, goats, swine and rabbits. Youth gain hands-on experience in animal care, responsibility, and showmanship while developing leadership and life skills.



### Shooting Sports

In the Shooting Sports project, members can learn the safe and responsible use of shotgun, rifle, and archery equipment. This project focuses on firearm and range safety, skill development, and discipline, while also teaching patience, focus, and respect for the outdoors.



### Horse Project

The Horse project gives members the opportunity to learn horsemanship, horse care, and riding skills. Youth develop responsibility, teamwork, and confidence while participating in riding, grooming, and showing events.



### Photography

The Photography project teaches members how to capture and create images using cameras and digital tools. Youth learn about composition, lighting, editing, and storytelling while expressing creativity and sharing their unique perspective with others.

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## Additional Information...

**Fundraising:** More information about our first fundraiser of the year will be coming soon. Stay tuned! Hint hint... it will be in October!

**Permian Basin Fair:** Don't forget to sign up to work a shift at the 4-H booth during the fair, running August 29<sup>th</sup> through September 7<sup>th</sup>. Your help is greatly appreciated!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4BA9A82FA4F9C52-58012991-permian#/>

**4-H Enrollment:** Please go to [4honline.com](http://4honline.com) to enroll for the new 4-H year. You must be enrolled to participate in 4-H projects.

**Projects:** We have had a few members reach out about the Veterinary Science project. We are currently working to find a project leader for this project. If you know of anyone who would be interested, please let the Steve or Stacy know. Also, if you are interested in this project, please let Stacy know so she can help provide information.

### A Note from the 4-H Youth Program Assistant

I am so excited about the new 4-H year and all the fun and learning we have in store! But first, I want to thank everyone who attended the 2024-2025 4-H Awards Banquet. It was wonderful seeing the kids receive recognition for all the hard work they put into their projects last year.

A special thank you to Judge Fawcett and Commissioner Mike Gardner for joining us as our special guests and speakers. I also want to express my gratitude to everyone who had a part in putting the banquet together from cooking, to decorating and making sure everything was ready to go. I hope everyone had a great time and is as excited as I am about the new 4-H year. There are so many opportunities ahead for our members to learn, grow, and have fun!

Stacy Cornejo, Ector County 4-H Youth Program Assistant

ECTOR COUNTY AGRILIFE EXTENSION	432-498-4071
<a href="http://ector.agrilife.org">ector.agrilife.org</a>	1010 E 8 <sup>th</sup> St. Rm 102 Odessa, TX 79761

## **Ector County 4-H Community Club**

### **2025-2026 Information**

#### **Important Dates:**

- **4-H Community Club meetings**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month unless noted otherwise
  - Held at the 4-H meeting room
    - 1010 E 8<sup>th</sup> St, Odessa, TX
- **Upcoming Dates for the 2025-2026 4-H year**
  - August/September 2025
    - Open Enrollment for 4-H 2025-2026 year
      - Please make sure you enroll for the new 4-H year. You must be enrolled to participate in projects and meetings.
  - August 29, 2025 – September 7, 2025
    - Permian Basin Fair
    - Please be sure to sign up to work at the 4-H booth
  - Tuesday, September 9, 2025
    - 2025-2026 4-H Installation of new officers at the PAL Building at Floyd Gwin Park
    - Kick-off get together at Floyd Gwin Park
    - 6:30 pm – 8 pm
  - Tuesday, September 16, 2025
    - ECLA meeting at 7 pm at extension office meeting room
  - Tuesday, September 23, 2025
    - Commissioners Court at 10 am
      - 2025-2026 4-H Officers, if you can make it to Commissioners Court this day that would be great.
  - Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025
    - National 4-H Week
  - Monday, October 6, 2025 General Club Meeting 6 pm
    - We will be having spaghetti dinner
  - Tuesday, October 7, 2025 – **Tentative**
    - Texas Roadhouse Dine & Donate Fundraiser
      - 3 pm – 10 pm, Odessa location
      - More information to come

- Saturday, October 11, 2025
  - National 4-H Day
  - We will be doing some kind of community service project on this day. More information to come
- Monday, November 3, 2025 General Club Meeting 6 pm in Commissioners Court Room
- Monday, December 1, 2025 General Club Meeting 6 pm
- TBD, December 2025 Fundraiser
  - Texas Roadhouse Beard & Gift Card
- Monday, January 5, 2026 General Club Meeting 6 pm
- Friday, January 16 & 17, 2026
  - ECLA – Ector County Livestock Show
- Monday, February 2, 2026 General Club Meeting 6 pm
- Monday, March TBD, 2026 General Club Meeting 6 pm
- Monday, April 6, 2026 General Club Meeting 6 pm
- Monday, May 4, 2026 General Club Meeting 6 pm

**\*General club meetings will be held in the Extension Office meeting room unless otherwise noted.**

**Please keep an eye out on the following for any updates...**

- **Monday Memo that is emailed out every Monday for any updates.**
- **Ector County – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service FaceBook page**
- **Ector County 4-H Group Me**

## **Livestock News**

### **Livestock Tag Order & Validation Dates**

Steers – June 23, 2025 – Done

Heifers –

- Tag orders
  - August 1, 2025 – August 31, 2025
  - Late orders September 1, 2025 – October 10, 2025
- Validation
  - October 2025
  - Time and Location TBD

Lambs and Goats –

- Tag orders
  - August 11, 2025 – September 5, 2025
  - Late orders September 6, 2025 – October 17, 2025
- Validation
  - October 27, 2025
  - Coliseum Barn E 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Swine –

- Tag orders
  - September 1, 2025 – September 19, 2025
  - Late orders September 20, 2025 – October 31, 2025
- Validation
  - November 24 or 25, 2025 (Tentative)
  - Time and location TBD

Rabbits –

- Orders - TBD
  - Due by
- Validation
  - December 2025 (TBD)

## **Livestock Shows**

Permian Basin Fair – August 29<sup>th</sup> thru September 7<sup>th</sup>

State Fair – September 25<sup>th</sup> thru October 19<sup>th</sup>

Sandhills Stock Show & Rodeo – January 8, 2026 thru January 10, 2026

ECLA – Ector County Livestock Association – January 16, 2026 thru January 17, 2026

Fort Worth – February 1<sup>st</sup> thru February 6<sup>th</sup>

San Angelo – February 15<sup>th</sup> thru February 21<sup>st</sup> \*

San Antonio – February 20<sup>th</sup> thru February 28<sup>th</sup>

Houston Livestock Show – March 12<sup>th</sup> thru March 21<sup>st</sup>

Major Stock Show sign up deadline is **Friday, November 7, 2025**

\*For San Angelo, the deadline for rabbit registration is before **December 30, 2025**.

## **Contacts**

Steve Paz – Steers and Swine

Brady Evans – Lambs, Goats, and Rabbits

Crystal Harrison – Horse Project



## **ECLA**

### **Ector County Livestock Association County Show**

**2025 – 2026 County show will be on Friday, January TBD**

Categories:

- Livestock
  - Rabbits
  - Lambs
  - Goats
  - Swine
  - Steers
  - Horses – Halter Show
- Non-Livestock
  - Photography
  - Food
  - Horticulture

To participate as an exhibitor, you must attend at **least 3 ECLA meetings** before the County Show in January 2026. The mandatory work night (normally the Wednesday before the show) counts as one meeting. Must attend the mandatory work night to show at the show.

ECLA meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm at the 4-H meeting room, unless otherwise noted.

***Next meeting is September 16, 2025 at 7 pm at the Extension Office meeting room.***

ECLA Board Members

- President – Jesse Hernandez
- Vice President – Brook Belknap
- Secretary – Brandon Pugh
- Treasurer – Caroline Keith

## **Project Leaders**

### **Fashion/Sewing**

- Kellye Lewis

### **Food & Nutrition**

- Misty Allen

### **Horse Project**

- Crystal Harrison

### **Livestock**

- Steve Paz
- Brady Evans
- Livestock Committee
  - o President - Crystal Harrison
  - o Vice President - Jeremy Cortez
  - o Treasurer - Torrey Harding
  - o Secretary - Stacy Cornejo

### **Photography**

- Kara Pugh & Stacey Casarez

### **Shooting Sports**

- Pablo Davila

### **Veterinary Science**

- TBD

## **Extension Agents**

- Steve Paz – 4-H Coordinator
  - 432-498-4071
  - paz@tamu.edu
- Brady Evans – Agriculture & Natural Resources
  - 432-498-4071 Ector County Office
  - 432-686-4700 Midland County Office
- Krista Chin – Family & Community Health
  - 432-498-4071 Ector County Office
  - 432-686-4700 Midland County Office
- Sara Moran – Horticulture
  - 432-498-4071 Ector County Office
  - 432-686-4700 Midland County Office
- Curtis Martin – Disaster Assessment & Recovery
  - 432-498-4071 Ector County Office
  - 432-686-4700 Midland County Office

# **2025-2026 Officers**

## **4-H Club Officers**

President – Raelyn Clinton

Vice President – Sophie Juarez

Treasurer – Brazos Harding

Secretary – MaKalya Puffinbarger

Parliamentarian – Lola Harding

Reporter – Madison Puffinbarger

Health & Safety – Porter Gault

## **4-H Adult Leaders**

President – Amy Spain

Vice President – Kristen Davis

Secretary – Katie Puffinbarger

Treasurer – Kema Clinton



# Program Meeting Schedule

## Ector County 4-H



Below is a list of all active programs, a description of the program and frequency of meetings.

Club/Program Description	Meeting Info	Contact
<b><u>Adult Leader's Association</u></b> – Adult community members lead, teach or volunteer for clubs and programs	Meetings will follow the General Club Meeting which is held on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of the month unless otherwise noted.	Amy Spain – President amy.spain@yahoo.com
<b><u>Community Club</u></b> – Every club and program come together to discuss the state of the Ector County 4-H activities. This is led by the 4-H participants	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of the month 6 pm at The Extension Office 1010 E. 8 <sup>th</sup> St, Odessa, TX 79761	Stacy Cornejo stacy.cornejo@ag.tamu.edu
<b><u>Food &amp; Nutrition</u></b> – Learn about food safety, preparation, participants for competitive food and nutrition activities	Informative meeting on Monday, September 15, 2025 at 5:30 pm at Sweet Traveler Patisserie 3989 JBS Parkway, Odessa, TX	Misty Allen 432-631-5159 mistyrn1@hotmail.com Krista Chin krista.chin@ag.tamu.edu
<b><u>Horse Project</u></b> – Everything Equine! Mini clinics, vet visits, demonstrations. For the riding meetings they will need their own horse if they want to ride but are able to come watch and learn if they do not have their own horse.	Informative meeting on Thursday, September 18 <sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at The Extension Office 1010 E. 8 <sup>th</sup> St, Odessa, TX 79761; One riding meeting per month maybe more. Dates TBD	Crystal Harrison 432-316-8975 Call or text
<b><u>Photography</u></b> – Learning how to take pictures in different ways	Information meeting TBD. Photography project classes will start in January 2026.	Stacey Casarez stacey_casarez@yahoo.com Kara Pugh karap.4h@gmail.com
<b><u>Sewing</u></b> – Learning sewing basics	Information meeting will be at 5:30 pm on September 18, 2025 at The Extension Office 1010 E. 8 <sup>th</sup> St, Odessa, TX 79761	Kellye Lewis 432-557-9732
<b><u>Shooting sports</u></b> – <b>Archery</b> – Skills of shooting a compound bow <b>Shotgun</b> – Skills of shooting a shotgun <b>Rifle</b> – Skills of shooting a rifle	Please contact Pablo Davila directly for more information. Please contact Nathan Casarez for rifle.	Pablo Davila 432-967-5002 Nathan Casarez 432-634-0265
<b><u>Rabbits</u></b>	Contact Brady Evans Ector County Ag Extension Agent for more info	Brady Evans brady.evans@ag.tamu.edu 432-686-4700
<b><u>Lambs and Goats</u></b>	Contact Brady Evans Ector County Ag Extension Agent for more info	Brady Evans brady.evans@ag.tamu.edu 432-686-4700
<b><u>Cattle and Swine</u></b>	Contact Steve Paz Ector County 4H Extension Agent	Steve Paz paz@tamu.edu
<b><u>Veterinary Science</u></b> –	Looking for a Project Leader, if interested please reach out to Steve Paz	Steve Paz paz@tamu.edu

# LAMB & GOAT SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC



Saturday, October 4, 2025  
Midland County Horseshoe – Livestock Barn

## HANDS – ON EXHIBITORS

**\$25**



Exhibitors will receive hands-on instruction and must bring their own animals. Participation is limited to the first 25 entries. Pens will be available in the barn, and animals will be housed when not being used in visual demonstration sessions. Please bring all necessary supplies for your animals. The clinic is open to all age divisions, including Clover Kids, 4-H members, and FFA youth.

## PARENTS/EDUCATION ONLY

**\$10**



Educational sessions are available for parents and others interested in learning more about the sheep and goat project. These sessions will cover topics such as basic nutrition, fitting, shearing and grooming, health and disease prevention, and show preparation. They're ideal for families looking to become more involved or gain a better understanding of the project for future participation.

## CHECK IN 9 AM

- YOUTH BREAK OUT WITH ANIMALS

- EDUCATIONAL SESSION

LUNCH – PROVIDED  
FITTING, SHEARING, & GROOMING

Contact For More Information

432-686-4700

[brady.evans@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:brady.evans@ag.tamu.edu)