

#### **County Extension Agents**

Fallon Foster, M.P.H.
Family & Community Health
County Coordinator

Office 409-882-7010



County Judge
Dean Crooks
Commissioner Precinct 1
Johnny Trahan
Commissioner Precinct 2
Theresa Beauchamp
Commissioner Precinct 3
John Gothia
Commissioner Precinct 4
Robert Viator



Scan and go directly to our AgriLife website orange.agrilife.org

# Orange County AgriLife Newsletter February 2019





#### Presidents Day



Presidents Day is on the third Monday in February. This day celebrates the great leaders of our country.

George Washington and Abraham Lincoln are two of our most popular presidents. They were both born in February. Their birthdays are right around this holiday. You might recognize their faces from money or from monuments in Washington D.C.

Presidents Day celebrates not just these presidents, but all of them. They have a difficult job! They have to make very hard choices for our country. On this day, we honor them and the work they do for us.

Office closed Monday, February 18th

Holiday Reading Comprehension Stories

www.HaveFunTeaching.com



Orange County
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension



Scan and go directly to our Facebook page

Texas Department of State Health Services accredited food handlers program



## FOOD HANDLER'S

**Training Class** 

\$20 per person paid day of class Make check or money order payable to FPM Account 230202 No cash accepted

February 19th May 21st August 20th November 19th

6 pm to 8 pm



To PRE-REGISTER Call 409-882-7010 Class will be held at **AgriLife Extension Office** 11475 FM 1442 Orange



This class is recommended for all food service employees to help promote the service of safe food.



Class taught by Fallon Foster, M.P.H.







### Fresh Start to a Healthier You



Come join us and learn about tips on: saving money at the grocery store, food safety, & meal planning

Location:

Raymond Gould Community Center 385 Claiborne St, Vidor, TX 77662

Dates: Tuesday, February 5th, 12th, 19th,

Time: 6PM-7PM

To register for the class contact Tommy Byers at 409-882-7010





#### Certified Food Managers Two Day Course with Test



February 27th—28th Registration Deadline: February 15th May 29th-30th; Registration Deadline: May 17th August 28th-29th; Registration Deadline: August 16th November 20th—21st; Registration Deadline: November 8th

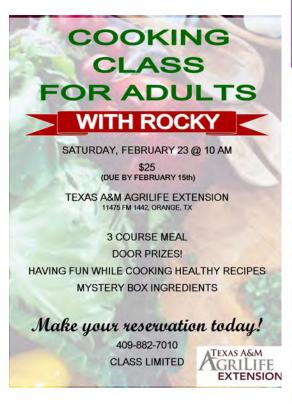
Classes are held 9 am to 5 pm each day

Fallon Foster, M.P.H. County Extension Agent Family & Community Health will conduct the course and exam at the Extension office 11475 FM 1442 Orange, 409-882-7010.





Must pre register by obtaining the registration form from http://foodsafety.tamu.edu Must submit payment of \$125 per person payable to FPM Account 230202 along with registration form to FPM prior to deadline









#### Plant Sale

Saturday, March 23 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Gates open at 7 a.m.

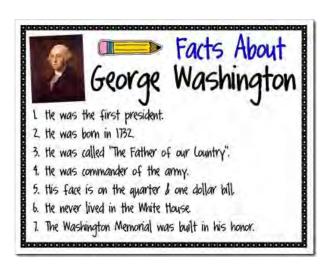
Annuals, perennials, fruit trees, natives, bulbs, lilies Texas SuperStars, succulents, Vegetable and Herb plants Tropicals, houseplants, Hard to find and unique plants

> Vendors offering gardening and other craft items

Jewel Cormier Park 8235 FM 1442 Orangefield

(Between RR tracks and St. Helen Catholic Church)

Rain or Shine - Covered Pavilion







#### Be Well, Live Well:

A Program on Healthy Aging

#### **Learn How To:**

- · Reduce your risk for disease
- · Engage in a healthy lifestyle

#### Be Independent, Eat Well

Learn which nutrients you need more of as you age, how to support cognition through food, and more!

#### Be Able, Read the Label

Find out how to use the nutrition facts label as tool to help you maintain a healthy eating pattern.

#### Be Safe, Eat Safe

Learn how to keep food safe while shopping, how to interpret dates on food packages, safe food storage practices, and more!

#### Be Creative, Plan Meals

Find solutions to eating alone and learn how to plan meals for small households.

#### Be Fit, Move More

Learn the benefits of physical activity as you age, and ideas to include physical activity in your daily life.

#### Sessions Start:

| March 4, 2019 | 6PM | Orange County Event and Expo center Orange, TX 77630 |

#### For more information contact:

Tommy Byers

409-882-7010

Tommy.Byers@ag.tamu.edu

ATEXAS A&M GRILIFE EXTENSION

The members of Texts Add Agril. Se will provide equal apportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons reportless or now, color, sex, reliable, national orials, ase, disability, sensite information, setters status, sepal priestation, ander identity, or sende repression.







#### **Discussion Topics:**

- Exercise Tips
- Beneficial Food
- A Healthier Body & Much More



Join us Wednesday in March and April (March 6, 13, 20, 27 April 3, 10, 17, 24)

Beginning at 9 AM

Raymond Gould Community Center Gazebo 385 Claiborne St. Vidor, TX

For Questions or to R.S.V.P Call: 409-882-7010





FREE 5 Class Series

## Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes



6 pm to 8 pm

March 14th, 21st, 28th, April 4th, & 11th



Join us in learning how to prevent and control your type 2 diabetes, eat healthy and much more to control your diabetes.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Orange County 11475 FM 1442, Orange, TX 77632

Call the AgriLife Office for your reservations. 409-882-7010





#### **MYTH**

Because fruit has sugar, people with diabetes can't eat it.



People with diabetes can eat fruit as one of their carbohydrate choices. Try a cup of berries loaded with vitamins and fiber for dessert.



MYTH
"You're too young
or skinny to
have diabetes."

STOP

#### **FACT**

Diabetes can affect a person of **any** age or weight.



Tuesday March 26th, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Orange County
Convention And
Expo Center
Orange, TX
11475 FM 1442
Orange, Texas 77632

Hands-on
Demonstration!



Learn
Why to save seeds?

What seeds can I save? How to store the seeds?

Call 409-882-7010 to save your spot!

TEXAS A&M GRILIFE EXTENSION

#### **Agriculture/Natural Resources**

#### Myrtle Murder

#### DON'T DO THIS!!!



I know you see it done all over town, but **DON'T DO** IT!!!!!

I am talking about trimming Crepe Myrtles all at the same level, leaving years of "nubs" that distract from the beauty of the tree. The tree sprouts at this level of pruning year after year leaving multiple "nubs" from repeated trimming. This type of pruning is called "Myrtle Murder" or "Crepe Rape" which indicates that it is bad.

6. Always cut leave stubs.

Do this and y years to come. Sandra Hoke, 6.

Myrtle Murder is bad for several reasons:

- 1. Beautiful trees become ugly with unattractive "fists" where branches sprout.
- 2. It prevents the pretty mottled bark on maturing trunks.
- 3. Skinny branches sprout from the cut ends that are too weak to hold up flowers.
- 4. Crepe Myrtles are trees, not shrubs!

#### When and how to trim correctly

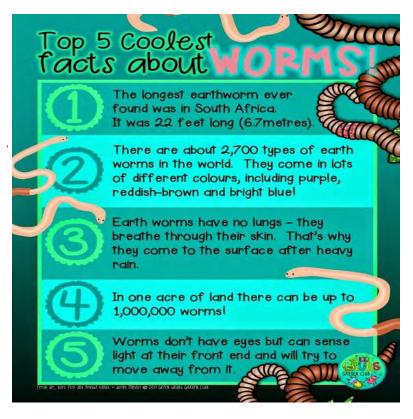
- 1. Late winter is the ideal time to prune.
- 2. Trim suckers coming up from the base.
- 3. Trim all higher branches growing toward the center of the tree
- 4. Trim all crossing, rubbing and dead branches.
- 5. Trim branches growing at awkward angles that detract from the tree's beauty.
- 6. Always cut back to a larger branch of the trunk. Don't leave stubs.

Do this and you will have a beautiful Crepe Myrtle for years to come.

Sandra Hoke, Certified Texas Master Gardener







#### **Agriculture/Natural Resources**

## ORANGE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS MONTHY MEETING Public Welcome

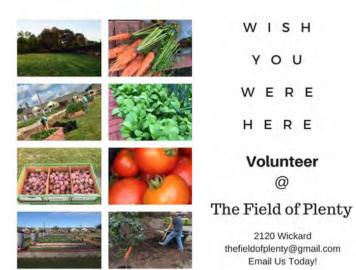
Monthly Meeting is held on the 2nd Thursdays of each month. Starting at 6 pm with a meal social till 6:30 followed by their business meeting and monthly presentation. The public is welcome to visit any of the meeting. The meeting is held at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center, 11475 FM 1442 Orange. If you have further questions about the Orange County Master Gardens contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office at 409-882-7010.



Call or stop by the AgriLife Extension
Office

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am-2pm
Or call and talk with our
Master Gardener on the MG Hotline,
409-745-9708,

You can also call the office Monday-Friday 882-7010 and leave a message for the Master Gardener.



Saturday January 19th, 5 of the Orange County Master Gardeners, worked at the EX-PO Center pulling weeds on the south side of the front of the building. Hopefully you will notice a difference. AgriLife appreciates our Orange County Master Gardeners for all they do to keep Orange County Beautiful.



#### 4-H/Youth Development



## Dusty Trails 4-H & Clover Kids Club

1st Tuesday 6pm @ 4-H Office Chesley Walters 409-781-0946 Tommy Byers 409-216-9865

#### **Adult Leaders Association**

2nd Monday @ 7 pm 4-H Office

#### **Mighty Pirates 4-H**

2nd Tuesday @ 7 pm, Vidor Junior High Cafeteria Tammy Glawson 409-474-2811 Franny Woods 409-330-7024

#### **Boots & Bridles 4-H Horse Club**

3rd Monday 6 pm @ T2 Arena Nicole Kepley 409-779-5521

#### All Hearts 4-H Homeschool Club

3rd Monday 1 pm @ 4-H Office Tammy Swindell 409-239-6026

#### **Clay Busters Shooting Sport**

Meetings—3rd Tuesday
6 pm 4-H Office
Tuesdays Shooting practice 6 pm
Orange County Gun Club
Robert Caffey 409-767-6222
robert.caffey@kodiakgas.com

#### **County Council**

4th Monday @ 4-H Office 6:30 pm

## My 4H project

#### **Dog Project**

2nd Monday @ 6pm 4-H parking lot—bring dogs along with a water bowl 2nd Thursday @ 6 pm Classroom - no dogs 4-H Office

#### **Food & Nutrition**

3rd Tuesday 6 pm @ 4-H Office

#### **Clothing & Textiles**

4th Tuesday 6 pm @ 4-H Office

#### **Livestock Judging**

Every Thursdays
(March will depend on the Fair)
6:30 pm @ 4-H Office
(Do not have to own an animal to participate)

#### 4-H FAMILIES

Please be sure to check your email and or the AgriLife Facebook page daily. If there is a change to a meeting or project it will be sent out through email and facebook.

Thank you!

#### 4-H/Youth Development



4-H Eligibility for Major Shows and South Texas State Fair

It is **YOUR** responsibility to make sure your school has your eligibility a week in advance of the event. You need to contact the 4-H office if you are needing an eligibility form.



South Texas State Fair

Photography Contest Deadline

At the YMBL Office is

Monday, March 11th

Contest is opened to Youth & Adults.





Big Time in D9 Roundup
May 2nd, 3rd and 4th
Conroe Texas

#### 4-H/Youth Development

#### February 2019 4-H Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Office Deadline for YMBL Rabbit Entries	5 Dusty Trails 6pm	6	7 San Antonio Livestock Show Begins Livestock Judging 6:30 pm	8 Roaster Pickup at YMBL Ofc 4pm–6 pm bring a box for birds	9 Sabine River Ford Rodeo & Livestock Show
10	11 Dog Project 6pm ALA 7 pm Adult Leaders 7 pm	12 Mighty Pirates 7pm	13	14 Dog Project 6 pm–Livestock Judging 6:30 pm Valentines	15	16 Deweyville Prospect show
17	18  PRESIDENTS:  DAY  Office Closed	19 Clay Busters 6 pm Food & Nutrition 6pm	20	21Livestock Judg- ing 6:30 pm	22	23
24 San Anto- nio Livestock Show ends	25 Houston Livestock Show Begins County Council 6:30pm	26 Clothing & Textiles 6pm	27	28 Livestock Judging 6:30 pm		

#### March 2019 4-H Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Office Closed	2
3	4	5 Dusty Trails 6pm	6	7	8	9
10 Daylight Saving Time Begins	11 YMBL Photog- raphy Contest Dead- line Dog Project 6 pm	12 Mighty Pirates 7 pm	13	14 Dog Project 6 pm Livestock Judging 6:30 pm	15	16
17 Happy St. Petrick's Day!	18 All HEART 1 pm Boots & Bridle 6pm	19 Clay Busters 6 pm Food & Nutrition 6 pm	20	21 South TX State Fair Begins Lamb & Goat Show	22 STSF–Poultry Show	23 STST Rabbit Show
24 STSF Swine & F- 1 Show	25 County Council 6:30 pm	26 STSF Steer Show Clothing & Textiles 6pm	27 STSF Auction Poultry & Rabbits Houston Ends	28 STSF Auction Lamb, Goat, Swine, F-1 & Steers	29	30
31						



Year's resolutions are said. no exception, according Texas a A&M AgriLife Extension Service expert.

don't keep their New Year's resolutions are that the resolution isn't realistic, a person ex-

pects an unrealistic benefit from the desired resolution or the person wasn't prepared to make the change," said Dr. Jenna Anding, AgriLife Extension nutrition specialist, College Station.

"Statistics also suggest that those who do make a resolution are not very successful at keeping them," she noted. "But that's not to say resolutions don't work. In fact, those who make resolutions do tend to have more success at changing behaviors compared to those who don't make resolutions."

Anding said the best way to approach successful resolutionmaking is for people to first list the three behaviors they most want to change, such as eating better, saving money or exercising more.

Failing to plan is plan- The next step is to make a plan and come up with a series of ning to fail, and New smaller, attainable goals to work toward the final goal, she

Anding said improving eating habits is usually one of the top New Year's resolutions, but that resolution should also be taken in smaller bites. "It's best to break this into minigoals such as committing to eating one more vegetable or "Three reasons people fruit each day," she said. "Other mini-goals might include eating out no more than two times a week, bringing a healthy lunch to work at least three days a week, drinking water instead of soda and eating no more than two fried foods per week.'

> "Make a contingency plan for obstacles such as bad weather when you aren't able to exercise outdoors — or if you find yourself in a restaurant that has limited healthy food choices," she said.

> Anding said it is important to choose and write down a specific date on which to begin the desired behavior change. Finally, Anding said, those who meet their goals should plan a way to reward themselves along the way.

> > AgriLife Today



#### **Ingredients:**

1/2 cup sour cream 1/3 cup water 1 tablespoon vanilla extract 2 eggs 1 egg yolk 3 tbsp. butter 3 1/4 cups almond flour 1/3 cup granular sugar 1 tsp. baking powder 1/4 tsp. salt 18 oz. pkg light cream cheese 1/2 cup confectioners sugar 1 tsp. vanilla extract 1/3 cup 2% milk 1/2 cup confectioners

Green, gold, and purple colored granular sugar

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees.
- 2. Line an 8 x 8 pan with non-stick aluminum foil.
- In a large mixing bowl, combine sour cream, water, vanilla extract, eggs, egg yolk, and butter. Beat with hand mixer on low for 2 minutes.
- Turn off mixer and slowly add dry ingredients almond flour, granular sugar, baking powder and salt. Combine with spatula. Beat for 2 minutes on low or until all ingredients are combined. Place aside.
- In a small bowl, combine light cream cheese, 1/2 cup of confectioners sugar, and vanilla extract. Beat on low speed for 2
- 6. Layer 1/2 flour mixture, cream cheese mixture, and 1/2 flour mixture in pan.
- Place in oven and bake for 35-45 minutes OR until set.
- While cooling, mix milk and confectioners sugar in a small bowl. Pour glaze on cheesecake.
- **9.** Sprinkle with colored sugars.

10. Serve!

YIELD: 24 bars

Nutrition Facts per Serving:

Calories: 160. Fat: 14g. Saturated fat: 14g. Cholesterol: 30mg. Sodium: 25mg. Carbohydrate: 5g. Fiber: 2 g. Sugar: 1g. Protein: 6g. Carb count exclude sugar alcohols. New carb count is determined with the equation total carbohydrate – total fiber – sugar alcohol.

Skinnylouisiana.com

#### **Agriculture/Natural Resources**



#### **Winter Gardening Tips**



While winter might not seem like a natural time for gardening, there are plenty of things you can do to prepare for spring. In some parts of Texas you can even start planting soon, and you'll have your next harvest before you know it. Winter is also a great time to start seedlings, prep your soil, and plan your spring garden. Here are some tips to engage your green thumb while the temperatures are still cold.

#### Plant What You Can Now



Timing is everything when it comes to gardening. For maximum success, carefully choose your plants with the calendar and your geographical region in mind. In some areas of Texas, plants such as asparagus, broccoli, potatoes, sugar snap peas, beans, corn, and watermelons can be started midwinter, after the chance of hard frosts have passed. Some resources to help you get started are:

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension's Easy Vegetables to Grow guide can help you pick some crops if you're new gardening.

Texas is a large state with a widely varied climate, so not all planting seasons happen at the same time. To know what grows best near you, contact the AgriLife office for a planting guide, which details the dates and regions that vegetables and fruits can be planted.

#### **Prepare the Soil**



Getting to know your soil will help you choose plants that will do well in your yard and improve the quality of your soil to accommodate different varieties. Winter is an ideal time to fine-tune the shape, texture, density, water capacity, and nutrient content of your soil. Learn more about what your soil needs in this AgriLife Soil Preparation guide.

If you're feeling handy, you can construct raised garden beds. These allow you to control your soil's mineral makeup, drainage, acidity, and aeration, all of which make for healthier plants.

AgriLife has a guide to Raised Garden Beds to help you get started.

#### **Speed Things Up with Seedlings**



Starting seeds to transplant into the garden is a great way to get a jump on the season. Start with a rich, loose, sanitary planting medium—any small container with some drain holes punched in the bottom will work. Or even better, repurpose old containers destined for the trash or recycling. Plant your seeds and pay attention to their watering, temperature, and sunlight needs. Your seedlings will be ready to take root in the garden by the time warmer temperatures arrive. See the Earth-Kind Guide Timely Tips on Starting Seedlings at Home for detailed instructions to give your garden a head start.

#### **Compost for Nutritious Soil**

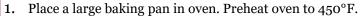


You can create a nutritious supplement to mix into your plants' soil by composting your food scraps. Additionally, you'll send less waste into landfills. You can compost outdoors with a simple bin made from repurposed materials, or with a sophisticated barrel unit. If you don't have the outdoor space for composting, consider an indoor system, which can be clean and odorless if done correctly. Look up the AgriLife guide to composting with worms (called vermicomposting) to get started.

Additional gardening information can be found at: aggie-horticultural.tamu.edu

#### Sheet Pan Smoked Sausage, Apple, and Root Veggie Dinner

- 1 (12-ounce) package Smoked Sausage, cut in ½" bias-cut slices
- 8 ounces baby carrots
- 8 ounce brussels Sprouts, halved
- 1 small red onion, peeled and cut into 8 wedges
- 2 teaspoons chopped rosemary
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- 1 medium Honeycrisp apple, cut into 12 wedges
- 1 lemon, halved
- 2 tablespoons chopped parsley



- 2. Toss carrots, Brussels sprouts, onion with oil, rosemary, salt, and pepper in a large bowl. Arrange vegetable mixture and sausage on preheated pan in a single layer. Bake in preheated oven until just tender, about 20 minutes.
- 3. Preheat broiler to high. Add apple to pan; broil until apple is tender and vegetables are slightly caramelized, 5 to 6 minutes. Remove pan from oven. Squeeze lemon over pan and sprinkle with parsley.



**Nutrition Facts** 

Per Serving; 435 calories, 34.6g fat; 23.8g Carbohydrates; 13.5 g protein; 52 mg cholesterol; 1306 mg sodium.

Allrecipes.com

#### Tamale Pie—Serves 8-10

- 1 pkg yellow cornbread mix
- 1 14-oz can cream corn
- 1 lb. lean ground beef
- 1 pkg. taco seasoning
- 1 yellow onion, chopped
- 1 4-oz. can diced green chilies
- 115-oz. can enchilada sauce
- · 2 cups sharp cheddar, shredded
- 1. Preheat oven to 400° F.
- 2. Mix cornbread per package directions.
- 3. Add cream corn and stir well.
- 4. Pour into a prepared 9x13 baking dish and bake



for 20 minutes.

- 5. Combine beef, taco seasoning, onion and green chilies in a large skillet to brown.
- 6. Switch oven temp to 350 degrees after cornbread is finished baking.
- 7. Stir enchilada sauce into meat mixture.
- 8. Once cool to touch, crumble cornbread and press it to bottom of the baking dish.
- 9. Pour meat over cornbread.
- 10. Sprinkle with shredded cheese.
- 11. Bake for 20 minutes
- 12. Serve warm

Tabletop.texasfarmbureau.org



Orange, TX 77630 Phone: 409-882-7010 Non-Profit Org. US Postage PAID Orange, TX Permit #12

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#### Black Bean Salsa with Pineapple

Serves 6 (about 6.5 ounces)

 $1\,(15\;\text{oz})$  can low sodium black beans, drained and rinsed

1 (15 oz) can pineapple tidbits in natural juice, drained but reserve juice

1 cup diced bell pepper

6 green onions, thinly sliced

1/4 cup cilantro leaves, chopped

1/4 cup canola oil

1 seeded jalapeno pepper, minced

Combine all ingredients in a bowl. Toss and serve

Calories 140, Total fat 2.5g, Cholesterol Omg. Sodium 100mg, Carbohydrates 24g, Dietary Fiber 8g, Sugar 10g, Protein 5g.



