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## Making a Difference

MEET OUR STAFF PG. 2

TRIBUTE TO DARLENE MYATT PG. 3

IF YOU ARE HACKED PG 4 Improving Tarrant

County's Families

THE PULSE ON PULSES - PG 5

Improving Tarrant County's Health

FOOD DESSERTS PG 6

Improving Tarrant County's Health

TOP FIVE INSECT PESTS - PG 7

**Enhancing Tarrant** County's Horticulture

ROSE ROSETTE DISEASE - PG 8

Enhancing Tarrant County's Horticulture

**INSTA-MEMORIES** REVISITED - PG 9

**Developing Tarrant** County's Youth

**BENEFITS OF YOUTH** PROGRAMS - PG 10

**Developing Tarrant** County's Youth

THE TALENTED AGENT HOUSER -PG 11

**Developing Tarrant** County's Youth

#### TEXAS A&M GRILIFE **EXTENSION**

Extension is embedded in the **Tarrant County** community, involving community members in:

1) serving on planning committees that develop educational programming to address community identified issues;

2)

connecting with community partners to expand our capacity and better serve the people; and

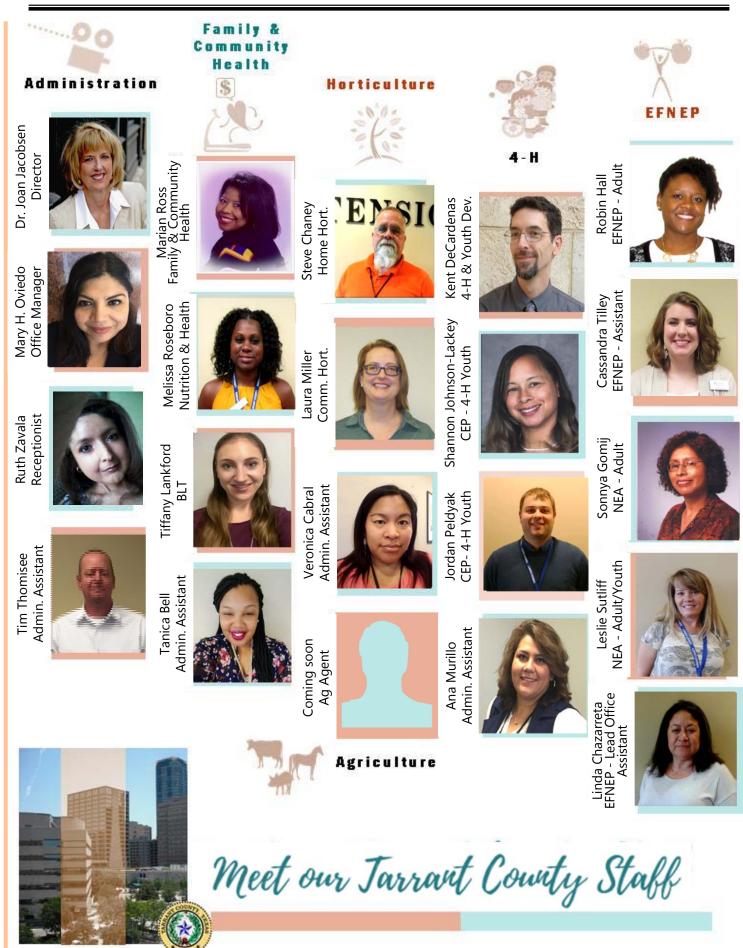
3) engaging volunteers in meaningful educational roles to enhance the quality of life for their fellow

**Tarrant County** residents.



A&M UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURI AND HUMAN SCIENCES Cooperative Extension Program **SERVICEUNITES** ational Volunteer Mont April 2018 🚽 POINTS OF LIGHT **FEAR-ROUND** VOLUNTEERS Master Gardeners: 439 4-H Leaders: 104 **Program Area** Committees: 96 Master Naturalists: 149 **Texas Extension** Education Association (TEEA) 19

Making A Difference in Tarrant County



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. \*Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in any of our meetings are encouraged to contact our office at 817.884.1945 for assistance at least one week in advance.\*

#### Page 2

#### Page 3

#### Making A Difference in Tarrant County



Keep a close eye on your account activity and report suspicious transactions quickly if you believe someone stole your credit or debit card information.

From data breaches to Wi-Fi network hacking, thieves are finding new ways to steal and use your credit or debit card information, even if your cards are still in your wallet. But if you take the right steps, you will not be responsible for unauthorized debits to your checking account or charges to your credit card.

#### Check your account for unauthorized charges or debits

Make a habit of monitoring your accounts. Online or mobile access to your accounts can make it easier to check your transactions frequently. If you receive paper statements, be sure to open them and review them closely. You should do this even if you're not sure your information was compromised.

Look for any suspicious activity like unfamiliar merchant names, especially from merchants outside your area, even if the transaction amounts are small. Sometimes thieves process a small debit or charge against your account and return to take more if the small debit or charge goes through.

Fraudulent charges or debits to your accounts might occur months after the theft of your information.

### Immediately alert your provider if you spot suspicious activity

Contact your bank or card provider immediately if you suspect an unauthorized debit or charge. If a thief takes money from your bank account by debit, or charges items to your credit card, you should cancel the card and have it replaced before more transactions come through. You should also consider changing your debit card PIN just to be on the safe side.

#### For credit cards

You are not responsible for unauthorized charges if someone stole only your credit card account number. If the card is lost or stolen too, you could be responsible for up to \$50.

#### For debit cards

If an unauthorized transaction appears on your statement (but your card or PIN has not been lost or stolen) you should report it within 60 days after your account statement is available. If you wait longer, you could have to pay the full

Distinguished Agent Texas A&M University System Regent's Fellow

Darlene Myatt addresses childhood obesity head-on with her engaging nutrition education lesson series that can leave a gym-ful of inner city elementary youth mesmerized with pouring milk, as part of learning-by-doing activities.

Thousands of inner-city youth have improved diets and better health due to Darlene's outstanding program. Dedicating her significant energy, stamina, and passion; Darlene has consistently graduated 10,000 young people a year for the last decade. More than 230,000 students have learned nutrition education with Darlene during her career.

Darlene's impact is felt long-term as participants she taught when they were children are now teachers, community center directors, and parents who seek out Darlene to introduce nutrition education to a new generation of youth.



TAMUS Chancellor John Sharp congratulates Darlene

Darlene has never sought the spotlight, but nonetheless she has received numerous local, state and national awards. Her most recent awards include being one of four Texas agents bestowed with the title of Distinguished Agent. She also was named a Texas A&M University System Regent's Fellow, one of ten from the System's 11 universities and seven state agencies.

A dear friend and cheerleader to all the



Darlene's Regent's Fellow Service Award



Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program unit and the entire Extension family, Darlene retired after a very successful career in Extension. She is leaving a legacy of dedicated service, a passion for always providing top quality service, and a kind heart that will forever be remembered by those who have had the opportunity to know her. In honor of her retirement, the "Darlene Myatt Friend of Children Award" has been initiated to recognize others "for dedicating time, talent, and treasure to teaching children, using dynamic enthusiasm and loving leadership".

If You Are Hacked - Stay Aware

Marian Ross County Extension Agent Family & Community Health

amount of any transactions that occurred after the 60-day period and before you notify your bank or credit union. The bank or credit union then investigates and may credit the money back to your account.

- The time for you to report is much shorter if your card or PIN has been lost or stolen (two business days, to limit your liability to no more than \$50 of unauthorized charges), so make the report as soon as you learn that your card is missing or your PIN has been stolen.
  - For payroll, benefits, and prepaid cards If you think someone stole information from a payroll, government benefit, or prepaid card, or if the card is lost or stolen, call the card issuer as soon as you can to notify them and find out its policy and deadlines for disputing charges. Your rights vary depending on the type of card. The sooner you report a lost card or unauthorized charges, the more protections you have.
  - How to report a suspicious charge or debit If you spot a fraudulent transaction, call the card provider's toll-free customer service number immediately. Ask how you can follow up with a written communication. Your monthly statement or error resolution notice also likely includes instructions on how and where to report fraudulent charges or billing disputes.
  - Be sure to keep copies of your letters for your records. Write down the dates you make followup calls and keep this information together in a file.
  - **Tip:** If you get a replacement card with a new number, remember to update any automatic payments linked to the card.
  - Card providers should investigate the charges quickly — generally within 10 business days of receiving an error notice for debit card disputes or within two billing cycles for credit card disputes. You have a right to know the results of the investigation.
  - Submit a complaint
  - If you have an issue with the card provider's response, you can submit a complaint to us. Go to <u>https://www.consumerfinance.gov/</u> <u>complaint/</u> or call (855) 411-CFPB (2372).
  - You can also learn more about billing disputes and your card protections at <u>https://</u> www.consumerfinance.gov/askcfpb

#### Making A Difference in Tarrant County

## The Pulseon Pulses

Extension Agent Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program - Adult

#### More Than Just Your Heart Rate

Pulses are dry, edible seeds with low fat content. They are the third largest plant family, and contain over 19,400 species, including dried beans, peas, chickpeas, lentils, fava beans, and black-eved peas. Pulses are highly water-efficient, requiring less water to grow than wheat, rice, or animal foods. They also have the ability to fix nitrogen in the soil, which means less synthetic fertilizers.

Historically, members of the pulse family were among the first cultivated plants in the Mediterranean because they were easy to grow, required fewer agricultural resources, the harvest could be stored for months on end, and they contributed to food security; today they remain a staple in many types of cuisines.

#### Power in the Pulse

Consuming just a  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup serving of pulses provides at least 20% of your Daily Value of fiber, folate, and manganese; at least 10% of your Daily Value for protein, potassium, iron, magnesium, and copper; and 6%-8% Daily Value for selenium and zinc. Research has found that consuming pulses improves blood sugar control, blood lipids, blood pressure, and body weight all of which can translate to a decreased incidence of heart disease.

#### Pulses and the Mediterranean Diet

Pulses make up the very backbone of the Mediterranean diet, a style of eating practiced in 16 countries surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. The traditional Mediterranean dietary pattern focuses on plant foods such as vegetables, fruits, grains,

nuts, seeds, herbs, spices, and of course pulses. The main animal food in the Mediterranean style of eating is seafood, with moderate amounts of eggs, poultry, and dairy products, and low amounts of red meat.

The Mediterranean diet is linked to many health benefits including increased lifespan; reduced risk of certain cancers, heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and depression; better weight management; and improved brain function, rheumatoid arthritis, eye health, and fertility. The 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans even recommends adopting a Mediterranean-style eating pattern for optimal health: according to these recommendations. Americans should eat 1  $\frac{1}{2}$ cups of cooked beans or peas per week.

#### **Pick Your Pulse**

Consuming more pulses is a great way to incorporate some of the principles of the Mediterranean style of eating. Try these ideas to get more pulses into your diet:

- Breakfast: Bean burrito
- Snack: Roasted chickpeas or hummus
- Lunch: Lentil soup or salad sprinkled with kidney beans
- Dinner: Chili, chickpea curry, bean stew, or falafel

**Reference**: Pulses in the Mediterranean Diet. By Sharon Palmer, RDN. Today's Dietitian. Vol. 19, No. 5, P. 22

#### Making A Difference in Tarrant County



The other defining characteristic of food Food Deserts are areas that lack access deserts is socio-economic status. Food to affordable fruits, vegetables, whole grains, low-fat milk and other food that deserts are typically found in communimake up the full range of a healthy diet. ties of color and low income areas Limited access to affordable, healthier (where people don't have cars). Studies foods is one factor that may make it hardhave found that wealthy districts have er for some Americans to eat a healthy three times as many supermarkets as diet and could negatively affect their poor ones. health. (Center for Disease Control & Prevention)

Food Deserts are often short on whole food providers, especially fresh fruits and vegetables. Instead they are heavy on local quickie marts that provide a wealth of processed sugar, and fat laden foods which are known contributors to our nation's obesity epidemic. (American Nutrition Association)

According to a report prepared for Congress by the Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, about 2.3 million people (or 2.2 percent of all U.S. households) live more than one mile away from a supermarket and do not own a car. In urban areas, access to public transportation may help residents overcome the difficulties posed by distance, but economic forces have driven grocery stores out of many cities in recent years making them so few & far between. This forces some individuals to take multiple buses or trains for a food shopping trip. In suburban a rural areas, public transportation is either very limited or unavailable with supermarkets often many miles away from people's homes.

Page 5

### **Food Deserts** ...& their role in Health Outcomes

Melissa Roseboro County Extension Agent Family & Community Health

Many convenience stores have a bunch of bananas or a few apples sold individually. Since these items are not priced, the customers are often at the mercy of the store worker behind the counter who determines the cost at that time. Studies have found that urban residents who purchase groceries at small neighborhood stores pay between 3 & 27 percent more than suburban cities buying the same product at the supermarket. (Foodispower.org)

If you recognize that you are living in a food desert, you can start by helping those in your community understand what this means and talk about ways to make change. Discussing different options, such as growing your own food, working with local retailers to sell healthy, is a good place to start. It is also important to bring your ideas and concerns to policy makers - city councilmembers, state legislators, etc. (Foodispower.org)

> Credit: American Nutrition Association Foodispower.org Center for Disease Control & Prevention

### Top Five Insect Pests to Watch for in the Garden

Steve Chaney County Extension Agent Horticulture

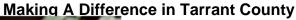
Can you believe it is almost May and we are in the middle of some serious gardening already? Seems like just the other day it was Christmas and everything was dormant!! Now everything is green and those dratted pests are out in full bore and we need to know what they are so we can make informed choices on how to treat them!

- Aphids small soft bodied and plump; colors from clear to yellow; usually in hers and bunches; they suck plant juices and secrete "honeydew," a clear, sticky, sugary substance that covers everything. They multiply more rapidly than rabbits; females can be born pregnant. Seldom is there a need to control aphids, but if needed, high pressure water spray, neem oil, or other organic control will work. Oh by the way if you have Pecan trees or Crapemyrtles you know these critters well!!
- Spider mites almost microscopic relative to ticks and spiders that congregate on the bottom of leaves and suck the plant juices; they can cause whitening to shiny bronzing effect on the top of the leaves. The best way to check for their presence is to take a white sheet of paper, shake the plant leaves over the paper, and look for reddish brown dust to start moving. In high populations, fine webbing can be seen where the leaf connects to the stem particularly a problem on houseplants, lantana, marigolds, tomatoes and your big evergreens in the landscape. Spider mites are not easily controlled in high populations without the use of a systemic miticide; low populations can be managed with repeated high-pressure

water sprays or an organic miticide of some type.

- Caterpillars come in many shapes, sizes and colors. In general, fuzzy, muted colored caterpillars are the larvae of moths; and bright colored, fancy caterpillars are the larvae of butterflies-both can be pests in your yard. Caterpillars are eating machines and can cause damage overnight; if damage is not acceptable, control is relatively easy by handpicking or using the biological caterpillar killer Bt.
- Thrips small 1/8 inch, cigar shaped insect, color from clear to white to tan; mouthpart rasps leaf and flower tissue and feed on juices. Thrips are common on roses and vegetable crops; often if rose blooms do not open properly, break open the bloom and look for dozens of thrips running around on the inside the bloom. Light colored rose flowers are more susceptible. Control is not easy—start with neem oil, but you may need to progress to a systemic chemical insecticide.
- Grasshoppers from tiny 1/4 to over • 3 inches in length; these eating machines will eat most any landscape and garden plant, in a bad year they may eat the siding of your house! Grasshoppers are migratory and will come into your landscape from surrounding fields. Start control measures with labeled insecticides when the grasshoppers are small for best control. When they get large, the best control is two bricks!!

As always, great gardening my friend. Call us at the office with your questions!!





North Central Texas has been at the center of perplexing landscape management problem for the past six years. From the Knock Out® roses in the median of Southlake Boulevard to the Drift® roses that lined Trail Drive in the Will Rogers Memorial Center, Rose Rosette Disease (RRD) has resulted in the removal of countless commercial plantings of roses. Even the venerable Rose Garden at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden (home of beautiful roses since 1933) was rose free from 2015 to 2017.

For the past six years, removal of symptomatic plants has been the only recommended course of action. Even though many roses have been removed from landscapes large and small all over Tarrant County, eradication of all infected roses and therefore RRD hasn't been a practical solution for several reasons:

- Roses are incredibly popular landscape plants. Many cultivars are also tough cookies. From the old garden roses in old abandoned gardens to the new shrub roses in gas station parking lots, there are thousands of plants that no one is even irrigating, much less monitoring for symptoms.
- The symptoms of RRD can be confusing. Some healthy roses are very thorny. Many display perfectly normal reddish new growth. Herbicide injury can result in distorted leaves. As unattractive as infected plants are, some people just don't notice and identify the symptoms.
- In June 2016, 16 cultivars from a list of 56 The virus that causes RRD can be present cultivars that had yet to show RRD symptoms in a plant for at least 18 months before were planted. In November 2017, 12 sympsome plants will show symptoms. Some tomatic cultivars were removed leaving cultivars in trials have tested positive for Lafter, Love, Carefree Beauty and Bayse's the virus but have yet to show symptoms. (yes, that Bayse) Purple in the trial. In It is impossible to know how many asymp-December 2017, 12 new cultivars that still tomatic host plants are out there. have not been observed with RRD symptoms • Digging out the entire root system of a were installed. The search continues.
- large rose bush isn't easy. Small pieces



# Rose Rosette Disease and the Search for a Solution

Laura M. Miller County Extension Agent Horticulture

> of infected roots that are left behind can graft with the roots of newly installed roses. Some root pieces will be able to send up new shoots, and those shoots can harbor the virus.

From whence comest our help? Lift your eves up and look to our rose breeders. The same people who gave us roses that are free from powdery mildew and black spot will no doubt find the needle of RRD resistance in the haystack of rose genetics. Dr. David Byrne, holder of the Robert E. Bayse Chair in Rose Genetics at Texas A&M University and Dr. Kevin Ong, Extension Plant Pathologist and Director of the Texas Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab and their hardworking graduate students have been collaborating with rose breeders around the country.

Here in Tarrant County, the City of Grapevine and a hard-working group of volunteers lead by Pam Braak have been partners in the search for resistance in commercially available cultivars. The story of the roses at the Dove Loop Trail Head goes back to March 2005 when 3 plants each of 24 cultivars were installed as an Earth-Kind rose trial. In the summer of 2014, a few plants began to show some symptoms of RRD. In October, ten cultivars showed symptoms and by winter, only the cultivar Lafter remained symptomless. The plants were removed in January 2015.

\*References to products or services do not imply endorsements. Readers are encouraged to call the Horticulture department for specific advice.

## Insta-Memories Revisited

Shannon Johnson-Lackey 4-H Extension Agent Cooperative Extension Program

Spring is in the air and preparations for the summer break are in full swing. This time of year serves as a reminder that vacations are upon us. Trips may have been planned months, weeks or days before the scheduled departure. Excitement builds as thoughts of potential adventures loom. With the promise of new discoveries, plentiful memory-making experiences and the knowledge that you cannot get these days back, do not forget to charge the cell phone and utilize that handy camera feature.

Your camera phone can be an essential tool while you seek new experiences away from home. The camera phone will aide in recording those memories you'll want to relive time and time again. A handy camera phone is paramount in capturing those smiles which occur unexpectedly or the look of amazement at the discovery of a soughtafter treasure. And after you've snapped those priceless memories, consider uploading them onto a photo sharing application such as Google Photos. This app will organize and backup your photos automatically. This will more than likely save you precious time and energy.

Before you start snapping away, visit The Digital Photography School offers tips on Improving Camera Phone Photos. The following 12 tips are from their website at http://digital-photography-school.com/how-touse-a-camera-phone/:

- 1. Light Your Subject Well
  - If possible shoot outside or turn on lights when shooting inside.
- 2. Get Close to Your Subject
  - Fill up your viewfinder with your subject.
- 3. Keep Still
  - The more steady your camera phone is when taking your shot the clearer your image will be.

- 4. Edit Images Later
  - Take your shots in color at high resolution to keep your options open on how to treat it later.
- 5. Don't Throw Away Mistakes
  - If possible hang onto your shots until you can get them on your PC.
- 6. Avoid Using the Digital Zoom
  - If the camera's zoom is a 'digital zoom' it will decrease the quality of your shot to use it (you'll end up with a more pixelated shot).
- 7. Experiment with White Balance
  - Adjusting white balance allows you to modify color balance in your images based on shooting conditions.
- 8. Take Loads of Shots and Experiment
  - Experiment with different modes and composition.
- 9. Follow Rules of Composition (and then break them)
  - Practice taking shots using the Rule of Thirds. Shoot from the hip, the floor, up high, up close - anything goes.
- 10. Keep Your Lens Clean
  - From time to time clean the lens of your camera using a soft cloth.
- 11. Observe Camera Phone Etiquette
  - While there is no formal set of rules for using camera phones it is worth considering how you use it and what impact it might have upon others.
- 12. Use the Highest Resolution Possible on Your Camera Phone
  - The higher your resolution the clearer your shot will be.

For Insta-4-H Memories, follow me on Instagram@tccep4h and enjoy your camera phone adventures!!

#### Making A Difference in Tarrant County



The benefits of youth being involved in after I participated in. There were many activities that my parents pushed me into but I am school programs and clubs have a large grateful they did. I was shy as a young child impact on social and life skills development, and there were many things I was scared that can give youth a step ahead moving through the early years of life. 4-H clubs to do. Once I started a program I enjoyed can open up doors for those youth that are everything about it, including being with trying to find what they may be passionate peers and learning from one another. I remember during high school I joined a about, or continue to enjoy activities and projects that they have been successful with journalism club. I was scared to death that in the past. Youth programs allow students I would have to read my articles in front of to learn from peers and share their my peers. But by the end the club year I knowledge of different skills with each other. had developed the confidence to speak in Clubs can make it easier for youth to work front of the whole school. Just being involved in small clubs at my school and with other students that may have the same interests as they do. During the developdoing community service in my community, mental years of children, the fear may come helped propel me to where I am today. across that they do not belong within a My goals for helping youth and teaching programs goes back to my youth and getgroup or organization. 4-H youth programs along with others create a positive learning ting great experiences that helped me out environment for any child to explore their so much in my life. My goals are to give interests no matter their prior experiences. youth these same experiences that I had Many benefits for youth come along just through 4-H positive youth development. by being involved in the community with Benefits of Youth positive groups. The structures of positive youth development creates increased selfprograms to consider: discipline and time management skills. Youth may also benefit from helping in the 1. Youth gain community to create change. This could knowledge lead into potential career choices that deand skills velop through engagement in the communifrom peer to peer learning. ty and youth programs. The more exposure 2. Increased self-discipline and life for youth to learn and participate in educaskills. 3. Creating a sense of belonging tional programs and clubs, the better wellrounded they will be going into adulthood. and feeling valued. The environment that we live in is a con-4. Creating community change. stant involving place that requires everyone 5. Exposure to possible career to learn new things to be successful moving choices. forward.

My journey growing up was filled with youth programs that I was able to participate in. I am very blessed that my parents got me involved in all the programs and sports that



Page 9

#### Page 10

### **Benefits of Youth Programs**

Jordan Peldyak 4-H Extension Agent Cooperative Extension Program



"Strengthening Youth Involvement." New York City: ACT for Youth Center of Excellence, Cornell University, and Cornell Cooperative Extension.

The Talented Agent Houser Kent DeCardenas Kent DeCardenas County Extension Agent 4-H

4-H encourages youth to take on new projects, explore what they are capable of, and to always do their best. These are clearly great skills to develop when you are young and to carry forward throughout your life. While there are plenty of great examples of famous people that Tarrant County 4-H members can model themselves after, I would like to call your attention to one hardworking individual who still pushes himself to develop new talents and skills.

Charles J. Houser is a law enforcement officer that served in the army and studied computer science and industrial engineering back in college. But instead of pursing a career directly related to his studies, he became an agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. After spending his early years preventing crime in his native Detroit, he transferred to West Virginia for what he thought would be a short posting at the National Tracing Center. Thirteen years later, Agent Houser is still there and leads the effort to connect firearms to their original owners.

When he arrived. Houser found an old IRS building that had been converted to help police officers from across the country make connections between crimes, firearms, and suspects. What he did not find was a computer. Or at least a computer that provided a central system that tracks the data. Instead he found boxes. Boxes in rooms, boxes in hallways, boxes in shipping containers in the parking lot. All full of paper records. So many boxes that they are frequently warned that the floors could collapse. This doesn't include the rooms upon rooms of microfiche libraries of converted paper document. Barred by the 1986 Firearms Owners' Protection Act, the ATF can collect the data of firearms sells from licensed dealers, but cannot enter it into a central registry or computer database. Instead, the agents must search by hand the paper records of the more than 1,000 to 1,500 trace requests they receive each day.

To stay on top of this flood of work, Houser applied his meticulous mind and ability to teach himself new skills. He studied books on efficiency, management, and theoretical math. He broke down the steps involved in sorting the records and running traces. By using the motto that we all know so well -To Make the Best Better, Houser removed wasted steps and time. He lined the process up in the most orderly fashion possible. Through hard work and leadership, the center has doubled the number of traces run. doubled the accuracy, and does it twice as fast. All without asking congress for more money.

Page 11

And in case you think Houser is just talented in one area, he also taught himself how to paint and play the guitar. Also by reading books.

Houser and his staff's hard work has led to numerous awards. But the accolades they cherish the most come in the thank you emails and cards they receive from police officers across the country when they help solve a crime or close a case. Just like many 4-H members I know, who pursue knowledge for its own sake, for the good work that it will allow them to do, and for the positive effect it will have on their community. And while 4-H often gives out ribbons and awards, most 4-H members join their clubs not for the honors but for the fun and the good feeling they receive when they too Make the Best Better.

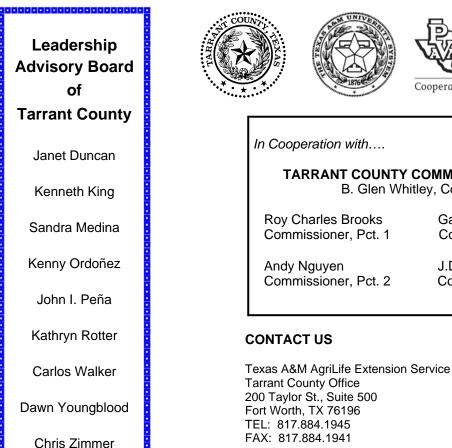
For more information on Agent Houser and the National Tracing Center, please see these websites:

https://servicetoamericamedals.org/ honorees/view\_profile.php?profile=282

https://www.gg.com/story/inside-federalbureau-of-way-too-many-guns

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ Firearm Owners Protection Act

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