

TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION



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Clover Connection

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It's time for camp! Looking back on our childhood experiences, many of us probably attended a camp of some sort. In my younger days I remember attending many 4-H project camps. Those camps gave me the opportunity to get hands-on experience in a variety of areas. From learning to groom and show my sheep, designing and creating my very own t-shirt and matching tote bag using puff paint and rhinestones (those things were really cool back in the early 90's!) and also how to prepare and present my foods and nutrition projects.

One of the most memorable 4-H camps I attended was a week-long clothing and textiles camp that was held at the University of Nebraska's Fashion and Design department on campus. This was an awesome experience that immersed me in clothing and textiles and fashion design. It definitely made up for that one summer my mom wouldn't let me participate in the "make your own MC Hammer pants" workshop. While I was pretty upset at the time for not getting to participate, I realize now Mom was actually doing me a favor.

This week brings our District 5 4-H Leadership Lab Camp. This experience is designed for high school aged youth. We'll be packing up my little Nissan Murano and heading to Laneville to the Pine Springs Baptist Camp.

We've got three 4-Hers attending and 2 will be running for a spot on the District 5 4-H Council. We wish Justin Jones and Christopher Childress the best of luck on their run for office. Youth get to take posters and have a "mini" campaign during the camp for the position they wish to be elected.

While the camp bunkbed mattresses seem to get a little harder each year as I get older and I need a little more coffee to get going in the morning, I thoroughly enjoy getting to take kids to camp. The camaraderie, s'mores and campfire vespers make for priceless memories. It makes me smile to think that someday they will look back and smile about their own camp experiences.

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