Hardeman County



**Award Application & Recognition Handbook**

**2022-2023**

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The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

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**Important Dates**

All biographies, applications, and record books are due to the County Extension Office on:

**Friday, July 21, 2023, by 5:00 PM**

All age / grade requirements are as of:

**August 31, 2022**

**Junior Age Category – grades 3, 4, 5**

**Intermediate Age Category – grades 6, 7, 8**

**Senior Age Category – grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

Award Interviews will be held in person

## Thursday, July 27, 2023,

## Time TBD

Alternate interview date options or phone interviews will not be considered except due to emergency situations.

#### HARDEMAN COUNTY 4-H AWARD PROGRAM





The Hardeman County 4-H Awards and Recognition Handbook has been developed to inform 4-Hers and parents of the awards and recognitions that are available on the County Level. The Awards Program is designed to recognize boys and girls for their project work, leadership and personal growth and development. We hope that this handbook will be beneficial to the 4-H member.

**Justin Gilliam**

**Justin Gilliam**

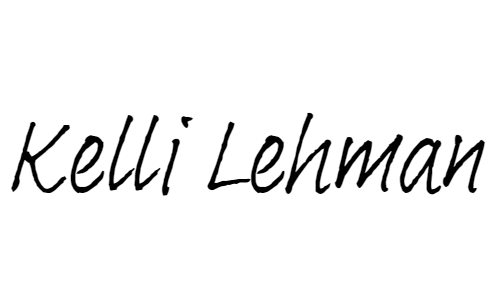
CEA Ag & Natural Resources Hardeman County

**Kayla Smith**

**Kayla Smith**

**Kelli Lehman**

CEA Family & Community Health



Hardeman County



4-H Program Assistant / Support Staff

Hardeman County

**RECORD BOOK**

**COUNTY RECOGNITION AND ACHIEVMENT**

Record Book Awards are made based on what is reported in the 4-H Record Book. Committees judge or evaluate project work and achievement, leadership, personal growth and development by reading the record books. Awards begin at the county level with ribbons or certificates. Junior, Intermediate, and Senior age divisions all continue to the District Level where placing ribbons are awarded. Seniors placing first at District in respective category will advance to State level competition.



**TEXAS 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

#### TEXAS 4-H RECORD BOOK PROGRAM

**Purpose of Individual 4-H Member Records**

1. Allow 4-H members to tell how they have grown, what they have learned, where they came up short and to do it creatively within outlined parameters.
2. Demonstrate the importance of keeping a written document of what has been done.
3. Provides a written platform for goal setting and documentation of the actions required to reach goals.
4. Provide an opportunity for competition at the County, District, and State level.

**Requirements for Project Completion**

1. Complete at least six learning experiences related to your project
2. Make a set of project goals.
3. Each month you should complete at least one of your project goals.
4. Exhibit your project work.
5. Attend workshops that are available in your community or county on your particular project.
6. Attend 4-H meetings or project meetings regularly.
7. Complete 4-H project records each year.
8. Develop leadership by teaching others something about your project.
9. Conduct citizenship activities related to your 4-H project.
10. Find new and fun things to do in your project area.

##### Requirements for Record Book Completion

1. Check Sheet
2. Personal Information Page
3. 4-H Story & Photo Portfolio
4. Report Forms
   1. - 4-H Project Experiences
   2. - 4-H Leadership Experiences III - 4-H Community Service
5. - Other 4-H Projects
6. - 4-H Recognition & Awards VI - Non-4-H Activities

VII - College & Career Exploration

##### For more information on Texas 4-H Record Books visit

[<https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/recordbooks/>](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/recordbooks/)

#### HARDEMAN COUNTY RECOGNITION

The Recognition Awards provide criteria-based standard of achievement for 4-H members. The 4-H member will be able to work toward non-competitive awards that will build their self-confidence.

**BRONZE STAR**

**SILVER STAR**

**GOLD STAR**

**DANFORTH I DARE YOU**

**4-H SERVICE MEDAL**

**4-HLEADERS & ACHIEVERS MEDAL**

Presented up to two outstanding 4-H junior members (grades 3rd – 5th). May be received one time only. Must complete and submit a 4-H Record Book as award criteria.

Presented to up to two outstanding 4-H Intermediate members (grades 6th - 8th.) May be received one time only. Must complete and submit a 4-H Record Book as award criteria.

Awarded each year to up to three outstanding Senior 4-H members (must have completed 9th grade - 12th) in Hardeman County based on their total 4- H career. A member may receive the Gold Star Award only one time. Must complete and submit a 4-H Record Book as award criteria.

Awarded each year to two outstanding senior 4-H members who offered excellence in character and well-balanced personal development as well as demonstrated leadership. May be received one time only. Must complete and submit a 4-H Record Book as award criteria.

\*Award recipients receive a personalized award certificate, a copy of I Dare You!, William H. Danforth’s classic motivational book, and an invitation to join other young leaders at the National Leadership Conference.

Recognition awarded to 4-H member, (Junior, Intermediate, or Senior age) for outstanding community service and volunteer work. Must complete and submit a 4-H Record Book as award criteria.

Recognition awarded to 4-H member, (Junior, Intermediate, or Senior age) for outstanding leadership on the project, club, and or county level. Must complete and submit a 4-H Record Book as award criteria.

***Biography REQUIRED as Cover Sheet to Application***

#### Bronze Star, Silver Star, Gold Star, Danforth, & County Medals

***All applications for Bronze Star, Silver Star, Gold Star, Danforth, and County Medals are required to turn in a biography****.* The biography will be read / shared at the recognition event if the member receives one of these awards. The biography should be 200 words or less, written in third person, and describe their 4-H career. Highlights of major projects, life skills learned, or special notes that the member would like to share with the audience should be included. County Extension Agents will edit as needed to fit the format of the recognition event.

Name: 4-H Club:

Applications submitted (check all that apply)

Bronze Star Silver Star Gold Star

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |
|  |

Biography:

Danforth I Dare You

* 1. Leaders & Achievers Medal 4-H Service Medal

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |
|  |

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# RECOGNITION FOR 4-H JUNIOR MEMBERS

BRONZE STAR AWARD

## Criteria for selection:

* + 1. The Bronze Star Award will be presented each year to up to two (2) outstanding 4-H Junior Members at the County Awards Banquet. Age requirements are: 3rd grade to 5th grade at the time of application.
    2. Must have been in 4-H for at least one year.
    3. The Bronze Star Award will be presented to the most deserving junior member without regard to gender.
    4. The 4-H member must submit a 4-H Record book in the year he or she is to be considered for the Bronze Star Award.
    5. The 4-H member must attend at least 50% of his/her club meetings.
    6. The 4-H member must have completed two different project areas during their 4-H career.
    7. Must have participated in various 4-H activities, community service and leadership experiences.
    8. A member may receive the Bronze Star Award only one time.

## Judging process:

* A check of award eligibility and required application materials.
* Judging of the awards application.
* An interview with a panel of judges.
* Review of 4-H Record book and achievements.

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## BRONZE STAR APPLICATION

NAME: GRADE AS OF LAST AUGUST:

CLUB:

1. Number of years in 4-H:
2. Projects completed:
3. Honors or Awards received in 4-H:
4. What projects have you enjoyed the most:
5. List Leadership activities other than in 4-H:
6. List other honors or awards.
7. Future plans for 4-H.
8. In 100 words or less, what has 4-H meant to you:

4-H Member Signature Date

Parent Signature Date

Club Manager Signature Date

# RECOGNITION FOR 4-H INTERMEDIATE MEMBERS SILVER STAR AWARD

### Criteria for selection:

* 1. The Silver Star Award will be presented each year to up to two (2) outstanding 4-H Intermediate Members at the County Awards Banquet. Age requirements are: grades 6th – 8th at the time of application.
  2. The member must attend at least 50% of his/her club meetings.
  3. Must have been in 4-H for at least two years.
  4. The Silver Star Award will be presented to the most deserving intermediate member without regard to gender.
  5. The 4-H member must submit a 4-H Record book in the year he or she is to be considered for the Silver Star Award.
  6. The 4-H member must have completed three different project areas during their 4-H career.
  7. Must have participated in various 4-H activities, community

service and leadership experiences.

* 1. A member may receive the Silver Star Award only one time.

### Judging process:

* A check of award eligibility and required application materials.
* Judging of the awards application.
* An interview with a panel of judges.
* Review of 4-H record book and achievements.

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## SILVER STAR APPLICATION

NAME: CLUB:

Number of years in 4-H:

GRADE AS OF LAST AUGUST:

1. Projects completed:
2. Honors or Awards received in 4-H:
3. What projects have you enjoyed the most:
4. List Leadership activities other than in 4-H:
5. List other honors or awards
6. Future plans for 4-H.
7. In 100 words or less, what has 4-H meant to you:

4-H Member Signature Date

Parent Signature Date

Club Manager Signature Date

RECOGNITION FOR 4-H SENIOR MEMBERS

## Gold Star & Danforth Awards

The Gold Star Award is one of the most sought after 4-H awards at the county level. It is awarded each year to two - three youth, based on the number of senior 4-H members enrolled in the County 4-H program. The award is for senior 4-H members and is based on their total 4-H career. Any 4-H member not meeting the minimum criteria will not be considered for the award.

Guidelines for Awarding the Gold Star and Danforth - I Dare You Awards. Criteria for Selection:

1. The 4-H member must be at least 15 years old at the time of application.
2. The 4-H member must have completed at least 3 years in 4-H including the current year.
3. The member must attend at least 50% of his/her club meetings.
4. The 4-H member must submit an awards program **Record Book** in the year he or she is to be considered for the Gold Star or Danforth - I Dare You awards.
5. The Gold Star is presented to the most deserving young people without regard to race, sex, religion, handicap, creed or national origin.
6. A member may receive the Gold Star Award or Danforth - I Dare You Award only one time.
7. **Projects and Activities**

During his/her years in 4-H, the 4-H member must have:

* 1. Completed projects in three(3) different project areas including submission of appropriate record forms and/or Record Book.
  2. Participated in one or more activities in at least three (3) of the following areas:
     + Method Demonstration/4-H Presentation
     + Contests
     + Project Exhibits
     + Camps
     + Leadership Lab
     + Citizenship Activities
     + Public Relations (For Example: Demonstrations, Speeches, Poster Displays, Club Exhibits, Project Shows, Radio, TV, Newspaper, Special Projects)
     + Other May Include: Exchange Programs, Fund Raising, State and National Congress, etc.

**Note: It is not expected that the requirements for projects and activities all be completed in the current year. They may have been accomplished over the entire period of time the 4-Her has been in the program.**

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1. During his or her years in 4-H, the 4-H member must have exhibited leadership skills in one or more of the following areas:
   1. Must have served as an officer or committee chairman at some level of 4-H organization (club, county, district, state)
   2. Must have served as a Junior or Teen Leader in an activity or project with, or under the supervision of an adult volunteer leader.
2. Community Service - The 4-H member must have participated in one or more community service activities. For example:
   1. Working or counseling with Junior 4-H members.
   2. Community service projects, either individual, group or club-type projects.
   3. Must have motivated other 4-H members through participation in demonstrations, projects, and/or exhibits.

Gold Star Selection Procedure:

* Interviews will be held by a team of 2-3 judges with location and times to be announced.
* Selection of winners will be based off interview, and application.

**No makeup interviews!**

**Texas 4-H Gold Star:**

The presentation of the Gold Star Pin begun in 1933, the first year Mr. E.C. Martin was Boys 4-H Club Specialist. Mr. Martin tells us the pin was prompted by an effort to recognize the people who did the work rather than the agents. Previous to this time, the agents submitting the largest number of 4-H records received the recognition.

Records in the Extension Fiscal office indicates that the first Gold Star Pins were purchased in 1933. For the first several years the Gold Star Pins were presented at a dinner during Short Course at College Station. In the beginning each county made a nomination of their outstanding 4-H member and 100 members were selected to receive the award. After several years, the awards were presented to the outstanding 4-H boy and 4-H girl in each county.

**Danforth - I Dare you Award:**

William H. Danforth's *I Dare You* was first published in 1931. It is still considered one of the most influential books in the general area of personal motivation. The award is offered as recognition of excellence in character and well-balanced personal development as well as demonstrated leadership. A copy of the book and a personalized certificate suitable for framing comprise the tangible parts of the award. Brazos County will give two (2) awards to deserving Senior age 4-H Members (15 and up as of current 4-H year). The selection procedure is the same as for the Gold Star selection.

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**4-H GOLD STAR & I DARE YOU AWARDS APPLICATION**

Applicant

Last Name First Name Middle

Mailing Address

Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name

County Number of Years in 4-H Club work

Name of your 4-H Club GRADE AS OF LAST AUGUST:

Age (as of Jan. 1) Birth Date

Applying for (check all that apply)

Gold Star

Danforth I Dare You

1. What project/s do you consider to be your primary area/s of involvement over the past one to four years?
2. What **life skills** (i.e., record keeping, public speaking, etc.) have you learned through this/these project/s? What did you enjoy most about the project/s?
3. What influence has your 4-H involvement had on your family?

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1. What do you consider to be your most meaningful 4-H experience?
2. Has 4-H helped you in making future plans and goals? If so, what are your plans and goals at this time? (Example: School, career, family, project goals)
3. What is the most meaningful award/recognition you have received as a result of your 4-H involvement?
4. How have others gained from your leadership experiences?
5. What suggestion/s would you make to change your county's 4-H program and what would you be willing to do to help make this change?

4-H Member Signature Date

Parent Signature Date

Club Manager Signature Date

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**Criteria for selection:**

RECOGNITION FOR 4-H MEMBERS 4-H SERVICE MEDAL

* 1. The 4-H Service Medal will be presented each year to one (1) outstanding 4-H Junior, Intermediate, or Senior 4-H Member. Grade requirements are: grades 3th – 12th at the time of application.
  2. The member must attend at least 50% of his/her club meetings.
  3. Must have been in 4-H for at least one year.
  4. The 4-H Service Medal will be presented to the most deserving 4-H member without regard to gender.
  5. The 4-H member must submit a 4-H Record book in the year he or she is to be considered for the 4-H Service Medal
  6. The 4-H will showcase a community service / service-learning project and or volunteer work they were the lead on during their 4-H career.
  7. Must have participated in various 4-H activities and leadership experiences.
  8. A member may receive the 4-H Service Medal only one time.

##### Judging process:

* A check of award eligibility and required application materials.
* Judging of the awards application.
* An interview with a panel of judges.
* Review of 4-H record book and achievements.

**4-H SERVICE MEDAL APPLICATION**

Available to any 4-H member, grades 3 - 12 recognizing outstanding community service and volunteer work.

NAME:

CLUB: AGE:

GRADE AS OF LAST AUGUST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF YEARS IN 4-H:

1. What was your community service / volunteer work? Detail what you did, why, and the impact made.
2. In 100 words or less, what did it mean to you?
3. In 100 words or less, what did it mean to those you helped?

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1. How have you shared your service project outcome with others? IE. Gave a report at club meetings, Civic Club, etc.
2. How many demonstrations, talks or exhibits did you prepare to support your community service and volunteer work project?

* 1. Member Signature

Parent Signature

Club Manager Signature

Date

Date

Date

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RECOGNITION FOR 4-H MEMBERS 4-H LEADERS & ACHIEVERS MEDAL

##### Criteria for selection:

* + 1. The 4-H Leaders & Achievers Medal will be presented each year to one (1) outstanding 4-H Junior, Intermediate, or Senior 4-H Member. Grade requirements are: grades 3th – 12th at the time of application.
    2. The member must attend at least 50% of his/her club meetings.
    3. Must have been in 4-H for at least one year.
    4. The 4-H Leaders & Achievers Medal will be presented to the most deserving 4-H member without regard to gender.
    5. The 4-H member must submit a 4-H Record book in the year he or she is to be considered for the 4-H Leaders & Achievers Medal
    6. The 4-H'er will showcase a leadership project and or series of leadership examples that support leadership on the project, club, and / or county level where the youth

served in primary role.

* + 1. Must have participated in various 4-H activities and community service experiences.
    2. A member may receive the 4-H Leaders & Achievers Medal only one time.

##### Judging process:

* A check of award eligibility and required application materials.
* Judging of the awards application.
* An interview with a panel of judges.
* Review of 4-H record book and achievements.

**4-H LEADERS & ACHIEVERS MEDAL APPLICATION**

Available to any 4-H member, grades 3 - 12 recognizing outstanding leadership on project, club, and / or county level.

NAME: CLUB: AGE: GRADE AS OF LAST AUGUST: NUMBER OF YEARS IN 4-H:

* 1. What was the leadership experiences you are showcasing? Detail what you did, why, and the impact made.
  2. In 100 words or less, what did you learn about leading others?
  3. In 100 words or less, what do you hope others learned as a result of leadership?
  4. What other areas of your life have you applied the leadership skills you have gained through our 4-H project work?
  5. How many demonstrations, talks or exhibits did you prepare / deliver during this leadership work?
  6. Member Signature Date

Parent Signature Date

Club Manager Signature Date

Sample Interview Questions

* + 1. Introduce and tell us about yourself.
    2. What is 4-H, and why is it important to you?
    3. What do the four H’s in 4-H stand for?
    4. Tell us about your main project area? What made you pick this as your main project?
    5. How has 4-H helped you to be successful in these activities?
    6. What is something you have learned from 4-H?
    7. What leadership opportunity has meant the most to you this year?
    8. Have you held any offices this year? If so, what were they?
    9. How have you been an influence to younger 4-H'ers in your county?
    10. Have you helped other people through 4-H (community service)? Tell us about it. Why do you think community service is such an important part of 4-H?
    11. Talk about some of the community service projects that you participated in or helped to coordinate?
    12. What activities are you involved with or enjoy outside of 4-H?

##### Others:

* If you could change something about 4-H what would it be?
* Tell us a funny/most unforgettable/disappointing moment in 4-H.
* What is a goal that you have? How can 4-H help you reach it?
* What leadership roles have you been in with 4-H?
* Have you helped other people because of 4-H (community service)? Tell us about it.
* What is something that you are most proud of?

Judges may also ask an off the wall, left field question like:

* + What would the color 4-H green taste like to you?
  + If you could be any position on the baseball field, what would it be and why?

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