

THE GAVEL

HITTING YOU WITH FACTS

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2016

Luttrull's Limelight

By: Ben Hall & Trent Warwick

The week of Texas 4-H Congress is off to a great start, with *The Gavel* staff being granted the opportunity to meet with the Texas 4-H Congress Governor, Lyndi Luttrull, to gain insight on her views and expectations.

“Texas 4-H is something that I am very passionate about. It is an honor to serve as a spokesperson for this event and the Texas 4-H Program at the state Capitol.” Humbled to serve as the Governor of Texas 4-H, Lyndi Luttrull enthusiastically welcomes the delegates to 2016 Texas 4-H Congress!

Looking forward to seeing all of the familiar faces in addition to meeting new friends, Governor Luttrull is very proud of the delegates for stepping up in their leadership roles as they have made the journey to Austin from their homes around the state. Governor Luttrull encourages all of the Representatives and Senators to “have a lot of heart” while debating and lobbying for their bills. The Governor expresses her high expectations for the week and wishes to see 4-H members acting with respect and completely engaged in the legislative process.



Governor Luttrull discussing the hot topics for the week.

Very passionate about several of the bills which promote agricultural education and improve health and safety, Governor Luttrull is excited to see the results of the debate which will take place throughout the Texas Capitol tomorrow.

Defining her time on Texas 4-H Council as “incredible”, Governor Luttrull gives all of the credit for her successes and opportunities to serve as Governor of Texas 4-H to her parents, agents, and mentors. Hoping to end this week on a positive note, the Governor has the desire to leave a legacy worth remembering, and continue to inspire 4-H members to make a difference in their clubs, communities, countries, and world.

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Listening to Legislators

By: Ben Hall & Trent Warwick

Speck Speaks

“It is a great honor to be able to properly guide legislators in their debate,” said Speaker of the House, Cole Speck. A 4-H member from McCullough County, District 7, Speaker Speck is returning to Congress for the third time in a row. Having previously served as both a Representative and a Senator, the Speaker is excited about his new role and experience and would like to make this week as memorable as possible.

Interested in seeing *Drone Use in Integrated Mosquito Management Funding H.B. 185/S.B. 385* and *Reinforcing the Cyber Crimes Unit for Texas H.B. 228/S.B. 428* pass through the House, Speaker Speck is hopeful that these two bills will find their way to the Governor’s desk.

Despite the fact that the House of Representatives will be stationed in the Auditorium this year, Speaker Speck is expecting a “fun time.” The Speaker looks forward to seeing the Representatives from around the state, and eagerly awaits spirited debate.



Cude’s Corner



Lieutenant Governor, Kathryn Cude, from Knox County, District 3, is excited to serve as the Lieutenant Governor and Senate President this upcoming week. “I am honored to be appointed to this position, and I hope to serve the Senators of Texas 4-H to the best of my ability.”

Looking forward to the engaging sessions, Lt. Governor Cude is prepared for the controversial debate which is expected to come with several new and interesting bills.

Lt. Governor Cude is excited about getting to know the individuals of the Senate through their debate. Certain bills have caught the Lieutenant Governor’s eye, such as *Life 101 Class Required H.B. 128/S.B. 328*. However, she shows skepticism about *Stop Sanctuaries Cities Act H.B. 230/S.B. 430*. Nevertheless, Lt. Governor Cude remains optimistic about the upcoming week and hopes that the “skills and information learned can be taken back to counties around Texas, in an effort to **MAKE THE BEST BETTER**”.

WHILE IN AUSTIN...

Rules for the Texas State Capitol

1. Be prepared to go through metal detectors upon arrival at the Capitol. Please limit what you carry to the Capitol each day. Do NOT carry knives or sharp objects, aerosol containers, large bags/backpacks, and/or non-aerosol spray (except for medication).
2. Please be aware of your noise level while in the Capitol. Noise and voices carry throughout the building.
3. Food and/or drinks are NOT allowed in the Capitol.
4. DO NOT TOUCH THE TELEPHONES AT THE DESKS. These are direct lines to a legislator's office and will ring in their office immediately when picked up. If a phone is taken off the receiver, return it and let a chaperone know immediately.
5. The desks in the chambers are antiques. Please do not disturb the contents or any of the mechanisms on the desks.
6. Do not put your shoes/feet on any of the desks, trash cans, and/or chairs.
7. Backpacks are not allowed in the Texas State Capitol.
8. Carry your nametags, personal items and Congress notebooks with you to all events.
9. Report any accidents immediately to a chaperone.
10. NO cell phones are allowed in the chambers or committee rooms.

WHILE AT THE HOTEL...

Rules for the Sheraton Austin Hotel

1. Remember that we are guests at the hotel, and many other guests are staying here as well. Please allow them on and off the elevators first, even if you have been waiting.
2. Do not run in any part of the hotel (lobby, ballroom, hallways).
3. Always keep your room locked. Do not flip your night lock bar allowing the door to stay open. The hotel has strict orders to flip these back and lock the door.
4. Keep all valuables locked up or with you at all times.
5. Respect and follow curfew times.
6. No boys in girls' rooms, and no girls in boys' rooms.
7. The swimming pool is only available during the times that you do not have to be somewhere else. Pool closes at 11 p.m.
8. If you are on the 5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th floors, please use the stairs rather than the elevator. This is faster and more considerate for the other hotel guests.
9. Do not touch the fire alarms in the hotel unless there is a fire.
10. Abide by the dress code guide at all times.

SIX TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



Governor
Lyndi Luttrull
Wise County | District 3



Speaker of the House
Cole Speck
McCulloch County | District 7



**Lieutenant Governor
& Senate President**
Kathryn Cude
Knox County | District 3



**Chief Justice,
Texas Supreme Court**
Grant Wilson
Cooke County | District 4



Governor's Page
Sterling Skinner
Hale County | District 2



Governor's Page
Taylor Cantrell
Montgomery County | District 9

Editors' Edict

By: Ben Hall & Trent

Welcome to Texas 4-H Congress! We could not be more thrilled to work with you as we have several jam-packed days, filled with informative and exciting events. Here to "hit you with the facts," *The Gavel* is the official 4-H newspaper of Texas 4-H Congress, written and designed by your Press Corps members from across the state. Aiming to keep all of the delegates informed with the latest news and developments from each day, *The Gavel* will be placed in the front lobby of the Sheraton for your convenience.

This year's Press Corps members are highly skilled individuals who are proficient in their roles and areas of expertise. Their creative ideas and new designs are enhanced even further by their personal experiences and various backgrounds. The Press Corps team will work together as they bring you the facts through articles and photos from this week's numerous events.

Follow us on social media to stay up to date with the latest headlines as they come out! Photos and updates will be posted on the Texas 4-H Youth Development page on Facebook and @Texas4H on Instagram and Twitter. Be sure to use the hashtags, #Texas4H, #TX4hCongress, and #TrueLeaders.

We hope that you enjoy this amazing event and are able to make the most of every moment!

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Garry's Giggles!

