

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SAN PATRICIO COUNTY



TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
 EXTENSION
 June - August 2019

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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 or 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

Agriculture and Natural Resources: The San Patricio County Crops Tour was held on June 4, 2019. The event began with Natural Resources Conservation Service Update followed by a bus tour, evening meal and educational program. Other major topics discussed were County Replicated Grain Sorghum Trail, Grain Sorghum Production & 105 Day Corn Varieties Discussion, Path to Plate, Insect Issues & Crop Management, Grain Bagging System Overview, grain sorghum and cotton variety trials, and a San Patricio County Water District update. The San Patricio County Crops Committee awarded their first \$1,000 scholarship to Tristan Frerich. 40 individuals attended the tour. 19 area ag businesses and organizations sponsored the event. Three TDA and three CCA CEU's were offered.



A Plastic Pesticide Container collection was held on June 19, 2019 at the Hartzendorf Gin in West Sinton and at the Midway Gin in Taft. 2500 jugs, 5 cut up totes 8 drums were collected.

4-H & Youth Development: The 4-H & Youth Development program celebrated the many achievements of 4-H members and volunteers during the annual **4-H Achievement Banquet**. This year's Gold Star Award recipients were Jacqueline Gonce from the Taft 4-H Club and Trinity O'Brien from the Clover T 4-H Club who were each awarded a buckle and a \$250 scholarship. Outstanding Adult Leader Award went to Mrs. Shannon O'Brien from the Clover T 4-H Club. Julia Vickers from the West Sinton 4-H Club received a \$500 4-H Council scholarship, Bryce Mann received the \$500 Leaders of Tomorrow and the \$500 Duane Campion Memorial scholarships. Four new 4-H awards were presented this year which included the *Diamond Award*—Taylor O'Brien from the Clover T 4-H Club, *Rising Star Award*—Shane Baylor from the West Sinton 4-H Club, *Intermediate Outstanding Community Service Award*—Taryn O'Brien from the Clover T 4-H Club and the *Senior Outstanding Community Service Award*—Megan Frerich from the San Patricio Blue Ribbon 4-H Club



Megan Frerich with the San Patricio Blue Ribbon 4-H Club received 1st place at the **State 4-H State Recordbook Contest**. Ms. Frerich's recordbook was in the sheep category. She has been a 4-H member for 9 years.



Family and Community Health: San Patricio & Aransas Counties hosted the **4th Annual Dinner Tonight Healthy Cooking School** at the San Patricio County Civic Center on July 30. 120 participants and vendors watched local restaurant chefs Jeremy Lee and Samantha McCray prepare family friendly, budget conscious, and healthy recipes. San Patricio & Aransas County Healthy Texas Ambassadors also prepared a food demonstration for the participants. Stephen Janak, Program Specialist with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension shared information on growing olives and cooking with Texas olive oil. Cooking School participants sampled recipes and also visited local food related vendors for additional educational information. This program is part of the Healthy South Texas initiative.



San Patricio County **Walk Across Texas Program** kicks off September 9. Walk Across Texas is a program to help people of all ages start moving more and establish physical activity as a lifetime habit. Program participants are encouraged to walk at least 832 miles in the 8-week Program.