

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SAN PATRICIO COUNTY



TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

September— November 2019

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The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

**4-H & Youth Development:** The 9th Annual Trunk or Treat event provided a safe, supervised, "no-fear" environment for San Patricio County youth and families to get together and enjoy fellowship. This year's event was held on Thursday, October 31, 2019 and had over 2400 participants. The Costume Contest had 60 participants.

Sinton Elementary Fall Fun Run was held on November 22, 2019 at the San Patricio County Fairgrounds to promote healthy lifestyles and physical activity. Top thirty runners from grades 3rd through 5th received a t-shirt and everyone received a healthy snack.

The 2019 Coastal Bend Classic was in its 10th year of providing education and help to youth with livestock project in the areas of cattle, sheep, goat, swine, rabbit and poultry. Each year we strive to make it the best event and each year we make it happen.

**Family and Community Health:**  
**3rd Annual San Patricio County "Choose Your Way" Diabetes Conference** was held on October 29, 2019 with 40 participants. This conference topics included What's New with Diabetes Medications & Controlling Your Diabetes, Staying Active during the Holidays, Mini Dinner Tonight Diabetes Cooking School and Emergency Preparedness & Diabetes. Free health screenings were also available. Participant Comments: When asked what was the most important thing you learned today? "Different options for medication" and "health complications uncontrolled diabetes can cause."

Twenty-four San Patricio County Walk Across Texas teams logged a total of 22,448.46 miles over a eight-week period. The program is aimed at helping participants establish the habit of daily physical activity with support from their peers. Research suggests, that when people walk for a period of eight weeks, they are more likely to walk for the long term. Participant feedback indicates that team members increased energy levels, reduced stress and lost weight. Potential economic impact of the Walk Across Texas Program in San Patricio County is \$4,168,980. Participant Comments: "As a result of participating in the Walk Across Texas Program, I lost 10 pounds." "Enjoyed walking with friends, kept me motivated to keep moving."

**Agriculture and Natural Resources:**  
**Ag in the Classroom-Path to the Plate** was held October 22-23, 2019 at the San Patricio County Fairgrounds. 1006 4th grade students from Gregory-Portland, Mathis, Taft, Sinton and Odem-Edroy school districts were in attendance, along with 54 teachers. Ten, twenty minute sessions dealing with production agriculture, nutrition and safety were enjoyed by the students. This event was co-hosted with San Patricio County Texas Farm Bureau and numerous volunteers.

The Fall CEU Conference was held on October 17, 2019 with 84 participants. Conference offered 5.0 TDA CEU's and this year's conference focused on pest management and alternative cropping systems. A tour of cover crop and tillage research being conducted at the center, as well as, a pest ID contest for all program participants.

(2800) 2.5 gal. containers, (55) cut up totes and (6) 55 gal. drums were collected at the Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling Day held on November 20, 2019, at two locations in San Patricio County.

The Coastal Bend Soil Testing Campaign collected 16 San Patricio County soil samples.

