

Henderson County Livestock Show

HCLS March 23-28, 2020

“Henderson County Livestock Show Officials Make Difficult Decision”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ATHENS—Henderson County Livestock Show (HCLS) officials recently met and the decision to cancel this year’s livestock show was made. The 60th Anniversary of the Henderson County Livestock Show was set to begin next Monday, March 23rd and culminate on Saturday, March 28, 2020 with the largest draw of the week, the auction.

“Unfortunately, the HCLS board had to make the difficult decision to cancel this year’s livestock show. We would like everyone to know that this was not a decision anyone wanted to make first of all. Each one of us has been involved with the Henderson County Livestock Show for countless years. Our absolute priority is, and always will be the youth of Henderson County, stated HCLS President Chuck McHam.

“However, we could not ignore what public health officials and our elected officials are saying. We hope that we can look back in a few weeks or months and regret this decision, but we did not want to look back in that same time frame and wish we would have made this difficult decision because a member of our community lost their life. We do hope that the community will continue to heed public health recommendations. This is the time to consider our neighbors and our sacred, vulnerable members of our communities. It starts with making difficult decisions, and I hope that everyone will continue to make those decisions to protect themselves and loved ones,” added McHam.

“We have plans in place to take care of our kids, but we do need the help of the community. Ordinarily, we hold the auction on Saturday for those projects who place and make the sale. This auction raises approximately \$ 500,000 each year. This will not be the case this year without an auction. As a board, we decided we must do all that we could to help exhibitors who no longer have that opportunity at the auction. We plan to give every market animal exhibitor a premium, but we need the community’s help in raising money. We have begun reaching out to buyers who ordinarily attend the auction and support the youth of Henderson County, but we will need more help financially this year since there will be more kids affected,” said McHam.

HCLS will graciously accept any donations. Checks can be made out to and mailed to: HCLS, P.O. Box 1372, Athens, Texas 75751. These donations are considered charitable and can be written-off on your income taxes. We will also have an online portal established that family, friends and neighbors can contribute. It can be found on our website at www.hclsathens.com.

HCLS will continue to fund our youth this year through our scholarship program. This year, HCLS will give out approximately 23 scholarships to the youth of Henderson County. More information for applicants will be available in the coming days.

If you have any questions, please email hclsathens@gmail.com.

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