

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SAN PATRICIO COUNTY

219 N. Vineyard, Sinton, Texas 78387  
361-587-3400 - office /361-364-6237 - fax  
<https://sanpatricio.agrilife.org/>



March - May 2019

**Family and Community Health:** One hundred twenty participants attended the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Pink Event Friend to Friend Party & Luncheon on April 25, 2019. Heather Marks, San Patricio County District Clerk presented her story as a cancer survivor. Cynthia Gonzales, Assistant Executive/Educational Director with South Texas Family Planning & Health Corporation presented the keynote address on the importance of a Mammogram and Pap test. The purpose of the Friend to Friend program is to increase the number of women to get screened on a regular basis for Breast and Cervical cancer so these cancers are detected early, when they are the most curable. Participants were encouraged to sign commitment cards stating when they planned to get their screenings completed. Exhibitors provided additional information about women's health issues.



Fourteen participants completed the **Area Youth Mental Health First Aid Conference** on May 1, 2019 and twenty-five participants completed the **Area Adult Mental Health First Aid Conference** on May 8, 2019. The Mental Health First Aid conference teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. This 8-hour training gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to appropriate care.

**Agriculture and Natural Resources:** The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Coastal Bend Grain Storage and Handlers Safety Conference was held on April 17, 2019 at the Fairgrounds Civic Center in Sinton, Texas. Thirty-one owners, managers and employees from (3) counties attended the conference. This year's topics included Ladder Requirements, OSHA Update, Insects & Controls for Long Term Grain Sorghum Storage, Facility First Aid Kits & On-Site First Aid Protocols and Fall Protection. A Fire Extinguisher training was offered after lunch. Sixteen participants received their Fire Extinguisher certification.



The **San Patricio County Community Garden** in its fifth year, has continued to gain momentum. A joint effort of AgriLife Extension, San Patricio County, the City of Sinton and other supporters, has not only benefitted 13 families with fresh produce, it is being used to educate garden participants and for other programming efforts as well as an interpretation tool. This year approximately 1200 ears of sweet corn has been picked and the participants have had an abundant harvest of numerous vegetables.

**4-H & Youth Development:** One hundred twenty-five Sinton Welder Elementary first grade students and three hundred fifteen Gregory-Portland TM Clark kindergarten students participated in the **Egg to Chick Program** in April-May 2019. Students learned about incubating and hatching eggs through hands-on learning experiences during their life cycle learning period. This project helped the students learn biological concepts and developed a deeper understanding of life science.



Sinton Elementary had the **Spring Fun Run** on April 26, 2019 at the San Patricio County Fairgrounds to promote healthy lifestyles and importance of exercise for youth and adults. The top five runners from grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> received a Fun Run t-shirt and all participants received a healthy snack.



A **San Patricio County Futures Forum** was conducted on May 7, 2019 at the San Patricio County Fairgrounds to discuss and identify the most critical issues affecting local citizens related to Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family and Community Health, Youth Development and Community Development.

## Extension Staff

- Kathy Farrow, Family & Community Health / [k-farrow@tamu.edu](mailto:k-farrow@tamu.edu)
- Adrian Arredondo, 4-H & Youth Development / [arredondo@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:arredondo@ag.tamu.edu)
- Bobby R. McCool, Agriculture & Natural Resources / [bobby.McCool@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:bobby.McCool@ag.tamu.edu)

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION