News From Your County Agent
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Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Zavala County

Some like it hot some like it cold but if you are one of those folks that can tolerate the heat and are not fond of cold weather the past week was just what you have been waiting for. It was an exciting weekend as thunder, lighting and some rainfall fell in most of the county on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon much to the delight of many lucky folks. Greetings to all of you and thank you so much for reading this week.

4-H And Zavala County Bank to Host Annual Financial Literacy Education Program

The annual 4-H youth financial literacy program will be held on Tuesday, May 29, 2018 at the La Pryor school cafeteria beginning at 6:30 p.m. Zavala county bank staff will provide a financial literacy program to youth and parents with topics such as the importance of saving money for future educational expenses, how to establish savings and checking accounts and other money management tips. Following this educational presentations all 4-H member that showed and sold an animal project at the 2018 Zavala County Junior Fair in January will receive their checks. A special money scavenger hunt will be conducted for the members by Zavala County bank. All 4-H families who have 4-H youngsters need to make plans to attend. BE SURE THAT YOUR YOUNGSTERS HAVE COMPLETED AND MAILED THANK YOU NOTES TO THEIR BUYERS AND THAT THEY ARE ON AN OFFICIAL LIST THAT INDICATES THAT THEY HAVE COMPETED THIS REQUIREMENT. Each 4-H club manager and our office has this list. Addresses of the buyers were provided to you several weeks ago. For more information about this event like us on Facebook or contact the Zavala County office of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at 830-374-2883.

Goat and Sheep Predator Management Board to Hold Elections

The Zavala County office of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will assist the Sheep and Goat predator management board with its required elections this summer to replace on director from each of the 3 districts in the state. Goat producer in Zavala county is interested in participating in this election as a candidate you must submit your nomination to the Sheep and Goat predator management board by July 9, 2018. You may obtain a nomination form from the Zavala County Office located at 221 North First Avenue, Crystal City, Texas. For purposes of this statewide election Zavala County is in district 2 along with 13 other counties from Bandera to Schleicher and Tom Green counties of the Sheep and Goat Predator Management Board. For more information about contact the Zavala County office of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at 830-374-2883.

Tip of the Week: Hurricane Season Begins Next Week: Prepare Now

While the chances of a hurricane making it all the way to Zavala County are very unlikely people, pets and livestock look Zavala and Neighboring counties as hurricane evacuation destinations. Remember the many folks that filled hotels, RV parks and some of our homes by hurricane Harvey evacuees. As a hub county for hurricane evacuations some of you will be called to gather for a hurricane sheltering site for people, pets and animals. Here are some things we as a hurricane

sheltering area need to know and communicate to those individuals that may head our way in the event of a hurricane.

Evacuees planning to leave an affected area and choose Zavala County as their destination they need to remember that if they leave their pets behind, they may be lost, injured – or worse. If they have no choice but to leave their pets behind they need to create a buddy system with a trusted neighbor to check on their animals. We need to help them identify shelters in the county and area. For public health reasons, many emergency shelters cannot accept pets. We need to help them find pet friendly hotels and motels in our area and bring along pet emergency kits just like for people that include water, pet food and any medications the animals are taking. If you receive some people with animals be sure the animals are identified and even better micro-chipped. A list of boarding facilities and animal hospitals is available from the Zavala County Extension Service office. Most animal boarding facilities or animal hospitals and veterinarians on our list will need the pet's medical records to make sure all vaccinations are current.

In many cases some people evacuating from affected areas may have large animals such as horses, cattle, sheep, goats or pigs. The Zavala County Office of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Zavala Agricultural Exposition, Inc. work closely to make the local stockshow barn an animal shelter facilities. Some of the tips that need to be passed on to folks that may be coming to Zavala County with large animals need to know that all animals arriving at the stockshow grounds must have some form of identification. If not animals will be tagged upon arrival by 4-H volunteers for identification purposes. Parking for livestock trailers will be available on the show grounds. All animals arriving to the ZAE show ground must be fed, watered and cared for by the owners. A list of veterinary services will be provided upon arrival as well as a list of feed stores and livestock supply outlets will be provided upon arrival.

Unfortunately our area depends on hurricanes to get significant rainfall but this is at the expense of folks living in the coastal areas of Texas. When we do get evacuees we need to be courteous, kind and helpful since many people coming to our area are under stressed, feel helpless and displaced and perhaps my suffer significant losses when they return home. Lets make them feel welcomed to our area and help them anyway we can. Have a nice week. M.V.

May 21-25, 2018.

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