

**Cameron County** 

This informational review of programs contains current educational information supported by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, which aims to improve the quality of life in Cameron County communities. The topics included are: Agriculture/Natural Resources, Family Consumer Sciences, 4-H & Youth Development, Coastal Marine Science, Urban Horticulture, Expanded Food & Nutrition Education, and the Healthy South Texas Initiative. There is a wide variety of extension educational publications available upon request from our office, or by visiting the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension website at http://agrilifebookstore.org.

Family & Consumer Science



## CEP - Family & Consumer Science

### 2017 Mango Festival

Prairie View A&M Cooperative Extension Program and Cameron County 4-H Youth Ambassadors collaborated to conduct a smoothie bike demonstration at the 2017 Mango Festival held on July 15. Ambassadors stressed the importance of eating more fruits and being more active to attendees.

Approx. 125 smoothie samples handed out



**Cooperative Extension Program** 

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN SCIENCES

> H Youth Health Ambassador 8

SCIEN





Los Fresnos, TX

#### 6 week nutrition program

Hands on food demos

How to read a nutrition label to make healthier food choices

40

youth

Benefits of drinking less sugary drinks

Port Isabel Housing Authority Harlingen Housing Authority

## **Dinner Tonight! Healthy Cooking School**

By: Lilian Mezquida, CEA - Family & Consumer Science, Elyssa Davis - Extension Program Specialist















140 guests enjoyed the recipe demonstrations, samples, and giveaways at the second Dinner Tonight! Healthy Cooking School event at the Harlingen Community Center.

"I learned about how to get the family involved in cooking"

"I learned how easy it is to prepare healthy meals, and it doesn't have to be time consuming"

July 27, 2017













## **Cameron County Healthy South Texas**

By: Elyssa Davis - Extension Program Specialist



#### Youth Ambassadors - Summer 2017

Hosted Youth Ambassador orientation and training for the 16 new YAs who were accepted into the leadership program!







#### Walk Across Texas - Santa Rosa 'Get Fit' Camp **Drill Practice Team Sports** 120 students WALK **ACROSS TEXAS!** Swimming 4-week mini Obstacle Walk Across Lessons Courses **Texas Challenge**

#### Walk Across Texas - City of Rio Hondo

3 Rio Hondo **Elementary School classes** 

60 students

Completed the Rio Hondo WAT with the recipe demonstrations, presenting a Tangy Fruit Salad demo & samples. The classroom with the most miles was also awarded bicycles in a presentation with their families, thanks to the City of Rio Hondo.



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#### A 'Blue Tie Affair' **Men's Health Awareness Month**

Healthy South Texas promoted men's health and recipes for the whole family at the 1st Annual Blue Tie for Men's Health Awareness Fair hosted by the Cameron County Department of Health & Human Services



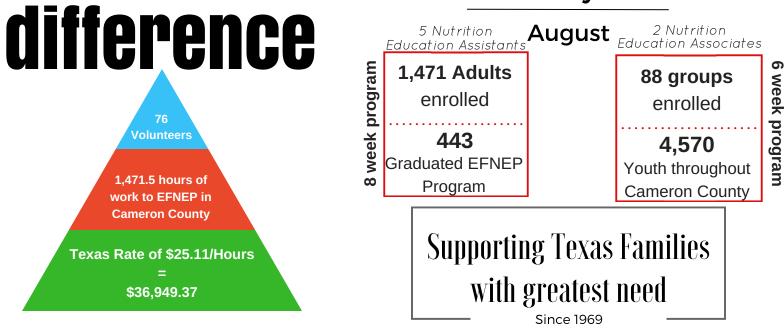
## Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program

By: Oscar Zamora, Expanded Food & Nutrition

Volunteers make a



May



# 2nd Annual – Summer Meals Nutrition Education Camp

During the Summer Meals Nutrition Camp, a healthy snack and lunch were served with a side order of educational activities and good advice on healthy living including hygiene, exercise, healthy eating, and other health-related topics.
My colleagues and I partnered with several other agencies and businesses to run the summer program, including Catholic Charities, Texas Hunger Initiative, Congressman Filemon Vela, H-E-B, United Healthcare, Metro Barber School Inc., SBCISD Child Nutrition Program, CICI's Pizza, BCFS. Presentations and activities were conducted by Rodeo Dental, BCFCS, San Benito Fire Department, Su Clinica, Cooperative Extension Program 4-H Extension Agent - Guadalupe Castro, and Behavioral Health Solutions of South Texas During our Camp.
The children also participated in lessons titled 'Exploring My Plate with Professor Popcorn' developed with curriculum by Purdue University Extension and created by Agril ife Extension Specialists in Family & Consumer Sciences and 4 H Youth

AgriLife Extension Specialists in Family & Consumer Sciences and 4-H Youth Development













**Ridley Floating Classroom** 





Participants were also able to see and touch various species of fish through the touch tank as presenters spoke to them about the various species. After the floating classroom, they toured the Coastal Lab in Isla Blanca Beach and learned about the effects of ocean debris.



## **CEP 4-H & Youth Development**

By: Guadalupe Castro, CEP - 4-H & Youth Development

Cooperative Extension Program

### 4-H Global Summit - Ottawa, Canada

On July 11-14, 2017 three Cameron County 4-H College age students attended the 4-H Global Summit. The students were able to attend workshops that highlighted what 4-H youth were accomplishing around the world in their communities. Together they establish a global network of youth that they could use to influence a positive change in their community.





Perla Sanchez, Yuridia Ibarra, Isela Diaz & CEP Agent Guadalupe Castro



While enjoying the outdoors and beautiful scenery of Camp Cho-Yeh, the youth were able to learn about environmental Science through various activities and presentation from Prairie View A&M Researcher. They also took a University Tour at Sam Houston University that was near by the Camp.

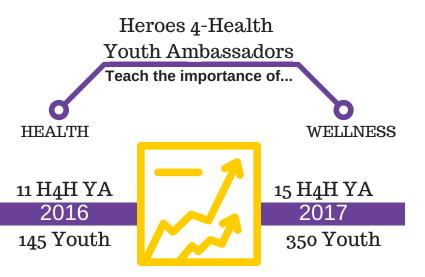
#### Heroe's 4-Health program

Heroes 4-Health Ambassadors learn leadership skills as they are trained in the Choose Health: Food, Fun, and Fitness curriculum, presentation skills, and how to coordinate and conduct a youth program.

With the help of the agents, ambassadors coordinated and conduct various summer youth camps in June and July. The program is funded through the Youth Voice: Youth Choice Wal-Mart grant.

#### Prairie View A&M Cooperative Extension Youth Leadership Lab





## Urban Horticulture

By: Jennifer Herrera , CEA - Horticulture

#### O Growing & Nourishing Healthy Communities 'GNHC'





We are also providing container gardens to families located in "Food Deserts"

## Learn, Grow, Eat & Go! 'LGEG'



Now, every HCISD Elementary School has at least one garden bed at their campus. LGEG grows good kids through an interdisciplinary program combining academic achievement, gardening, nutrient-dense food experiences, physical activity, and school & family engagement



2016-2017 School Year

1,400 4th Grade Students

#### Small Acreage - -----Educational Programs

A series of educational programs were conducted for beginning farmers, local growers and residents interested in starting a business. The programs consisted of a Goat & Poultry, Farm Food Safety, Farmers Landscape Workshop, Fruit Tree Grafting, and Business planning.



Over 200 beginning farmers attended 5 Educational Programs



## **Coastal & Marine Resources**

By: Tony Reisinger, CEA Coastal & Marine

Coastal & Marine Resources activities this quarter concentrated on turtle excluder device compliance assistance, fishing tournaments, Master and Coastal Naturalist volunteer activities, and hurricane preparation education.





AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY TexasSeaGrant.org



Brownsville

Port Isabel

Palacios

**Turtle Excluder Device Training (TEDS)** 



May 15 July 15

Vessel owners had a difficult time obtaining crews for the new season due to a delay in the availability of H2B crews from Mexico and Central America. Greenhorns were hired as crew for the season opening and many guit after their first fishing trip due to the hard work aboard our vessels. After the season opened, good catches were reported offshore Texas.

Trained in TEDS 138 Shrimp Vessels Crew Members

common practice for

billfish during both

tournaments.



23 Volunteers

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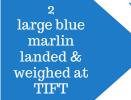
Red Tide Rangers

Texas Waters

Port Mansfield Fishing Tournament & Texas International Fishing Tournament(TIFT)



Over 1,500 Anglers fished these tournaments





If the fish does not reach a minimum size (103" for blue marlin at TIFT) they are disqualified from the tournament.

The meat from these large fish is donated for consumption. We tasted grilled blue marlin with mango salsa at the TIFT weigh station and it was incredible!

#### **Coastal Naturalist**

#### Training

The 'HABscope' device is a microscope attached to a video recorder with the capability of trained in the 'HABscope' determining a red tide cell count instantaneously and sending the info to NOAA and the Texas Parks & Wildlife Harmful Algal Bloom Workgroup for dissemination to the public. Should we have a red tide bloom, this device will be used and results compared to standard sampling procedures. The NOAA group provided three HABscopes, stored at the UTRGVCSL for the Red Tide Rangers to use if a bloom occurs.

#### 4H Fishing Camp

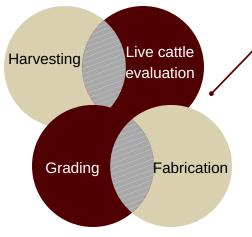


28 Youth trained

Tony Reisinger taught fish printing and fishing techniques

## Agriculture

By: Dr. Enrique Perez, CEA Agriculture



#### Beef 706 Program

Beef cattle producers will participate in a series of programs to increase their knowledge of the end-products of beef production.

Participants will have the opportunity to tour a feed yard, participated in hands-on live cattle with ultrasound evaluation, carcass grading, and carcass fabrication at a beef processing plant.

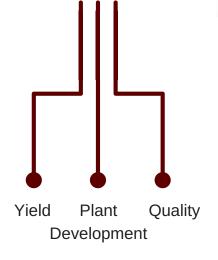
#### Agriculture International Program Focused on USDA Programs

Agriculture producers from Northern Mexico were special guests this summer as they learned agriculture technologies (surge irrigation, land leveling, control of pests, and agriculture USDA Programs)

A series of Information was shared at the 2017 Farm Bill & government funding.







#### Agriculture Result Demonstration serve as Teaching Tool for Agriculture Producers

Cotton & Grain Sorghum field result demonstrations provide agriculture producers increase in knowledge to new hybrid varieties adapted to the Rio Grande Valley.



