

Helping Texans Better Their Lives

Cameron County Extension Quarterly Newsletter

July - September 2019

WHAT WE DO:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is a unique educational agency that provides programs, tools, and resources on a local and statewide level that teach people how to improve agriculture and food production, advance health practices, protect the environment, strengthen the economy, and enrich youth.

In all 254 counties, County Extension Agents serve families, youth, communities and businesses throughout the state.

EXTENSION STAFF

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www.cameron.agrilife.org



www.facebook.com/agrilife.cameron

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

By: Marco Ponce, CEA - Agriculture & Natural Resources

Ag. Committee Meeting



Cameron County Agriculture Committee members met to discuss educational programming needs and any isues related to agriculture affecting the county.

Cotton & Grain Result Demonstration Plots

Result Demonstration trials were harvested to determine which varieties produced the most pounds of product per acre.

> Several Factors were also measured to determine the quality of the cotton and grain being harvested



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bit.ly/Cameron_Agriculture



Emergency Dog Response

Cameron County AgriLife Extension Staff members responded to an Emergency Dog Operation. **Extension Office staff members** decontaminated, identified and assisted clientele in reuniting or adopting these pets.





Texas A&M Veterinary Emergency Response Team members were deployed to Cameron County to assist in the dog operation. Veterinary team members examined, treated, and vaccinated hundreds of dogs in preparation for reunification or possible adoption.

Leadership Lab

We had our local 4-H youth participate in Leadership Lab over the summer in June.

Four of our 4-Her's represented Cameron County as district officers during the event. The 4-Her's stayed for 4 days and 3 nights in Kingsville, TX where they participated in educational sessions pertaining to leadership, team building, and Olympic Events.



participated and were able to bring everything that they learned back to Cameron County as young leaders.



Rural Student Success Initiative (RSSI)

We had our first kick off meeting on September 26 at Rio Hondo, TX for the AgriLife Extension Rural Student Success Initiative. We are one of 11 counties chosen to participate in the program in partnership with Rio Hondo ISD.



The meeting was very informative in going over goals of the program and the plan for the upcoming year. The goal of the program is to increase the number of rural students enrolling in and completing a postsecondary degree or certificate program

CEP 4-H& Youth Development

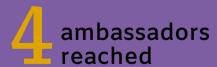
By: Guadalupe Castro, CEP 4-H & Youth Development

4-H Youth Leadership Lab



4-H Health Ambassadors

4-H Ambassadors conducted **Diabetes Awareness Health** Fair in Porter High School.



families







Family & Community Health By: Lilian Mezquida, CEA - FCH

Anger Management

FCH Agent implemented the Anger Management at Tropical Texas Behavioral Health.

Topics Included:

- Dealing with anger
- Symptoms of anger
- How you handle your anger
- A plan for dealing with anger







Health Talk Express

This program was implemented at Combes Wellness Center.

participants
completed the
Health Talk Series

Topics Were:

- No Excuses Get Screened
- Know Your Risk: Power to Prevent Diabetes
- A Matter of Cholesterol

On the Road to Healthy Living: Mobile Cooking School

The program is based on on-site, hands-on activities involving participants in meal preparation. The participants learned about healthy recipes such as snacks and main dish. This program was implemented at Hester Juvenile Detention center in San Benito.





CEP - Family & Community Health

By: Gloria Carter, CEP - FCH

A Balanced Living



Partipants from the Combes Community Wellness Center completed the **Balanced Living Curriculum** where they learned how to manage their stress, time, diet, activity & sleep

Money Smart (\$\square\$) (For Youth Curriculum)

Students from the Cameron County Army/GEMS program completed the Money Smart for Youth Curriculum and successfully completed a Welcome to the Real World simulation wherein they put their new found knowledge to the test.





Better Living for Texans

By: Nidia Garcia, BLT Extension Educator & Esmeralda Avila, Nutrition Education Associate

VISION:

Creating Opportunities, Changing Lives

MISSION:

We provide research and evidence-based nutrition, health and wellness knowledge to empower individuals, families, and communities to make positive changes for healthier lives.

48 Sessions

528 **Contacts**

88 Graduates

BLT Programs will help participants:

 Increase fruit and vegetable consumption



Learn about MyPlate



 Increase Physical Activity in Adults and Children



 Save money at the grocery store



Make Healthy menu choices













Horticulture

By: Jennifer Herrera, CEA - Horticulture

Master Gardener Training Program



MG Training Class Topics:

- Plant Growth & Development
- Plant Propagation
- **Drip Irrigation**
- Rain Water Harvesting
- **Native**
- Vegetable Gardening
- Herbs
- Composting Soil







RGV Small Acreage Program

Preserving the Harvest -**Canning Program** "Jams & Jellies"

participants













EXPANDED FOOD & NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM

by Melissa De Leon, EA EFNEP Agent







Healthy Foods, Healthy Families

Through the 8 week EFNEP series participants will explore how to:

- Cook more meals and snacks at home
- Eat more fruits and vegetables
- Be more active with their family
- Reach and/or stay at a healthy weight
- Save money on groceries
- Control portion size
- Have more energy
- Keep food safe

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321

participants

graduates



Exploring MyPlate with Professor Popcorn

Through the 6 week EFNEP series students will learn:

- MyPlate Basic Concepts
- The number of servings per food group
- · How to be physically active
- Making healthy snacks
- Food Safety

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139 109

> youth graduates







Texas EFNEP

Upcoming Programs & Events

Stay in the loop! Visit us at cameron.agrilife.org/events/

- November 5 RGVCTMN Board Meeting
- November 7 Cameron County MG Board Meeting
- November 12 RGVCTMN General Meeting
- November 14 Cameron County MG General Meeting
- December 3 RGVCTMN Board Meeting
- December 5 Cameron County MG Board Meeting