

# Making a Difference

## In Fort Bend County

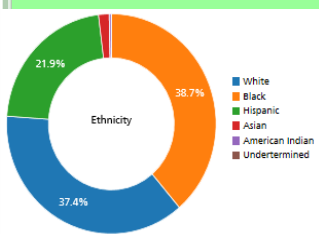
### Third Quarter—2018

#### Special Topics for Summer 2018

- ♦ Message from the Director
- ♦ New 4-H Adm. Asst.,  
Kimberly Vogler
- ♦ One Year After Harvey
- ♦ Texas EDEN
- ♦ Path to the Plate
- ♦ New—Jr. Master Naturalist 4-H Club
- ♦ Fort Bend County Fair—Est. 1933
- ♦ Snap-Shot of 2018 Upcoming Events
- ♦ Glimpse of Fort Bend County
- ♦ Contact Information

#### July-Sept. 2018 TOTAL CONTACTS

324 Educational Sessions  
64,391 Contacts  
1,008 Social Media Posts  
75,438 Social Media Followers  
26 Newsletter Editions  
36,451 Newsletter Contacts  
371 Volunteers Assisted  
1,719 Volunteer Hours  
1,816 Edu. Resources Used



**Message from the Director**—The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is a unique educational agency with a statewide network of professional educators, trained volunteers, and county offices. It reaches into every Texas County to address local priority needs. Some of our major efforts are in mitigating drought & flooding impacts; conserving water use in homes, landscapes, and production agriculture; improving emergency management; enhancing food security; and protecting human health through education about diet, exercise, and disease prevention and management.

AgriLife Extension demonstrates the latest technology and best practices to improve the state's food and fiber system which serves all Texas consumers and contributes nine percent of the gross domestic product. Texas 4-H, our primary youth program, engages some 600,000 youth every year in learning projects, leadership development, and community service. Collaborative programs enable Extension educators and their partners to extend resources and prevent duplication of services. In total, Extension personnel and Extension-trained volunteers achieved nearly 23 million direct teaching contacts, including distance education via the Web.

And just a reminder, AgriLife Extension and the Coop. Extension Program of PVAMU are part of the Texas A&M System. Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. For more information on the various programs conducted see the contact information at the end of this newsletter.

## New 4-H Admin. Assistant—Kimberly Vogler

Please help us welcome Mrs. Kimberly Vogler, our new 4-H & Youth Development Administrative Assistant. Kim began working in AgriLife on July 23. She is a graduate of Prairie View A&M University earning an M.E. in Counseling and from Texas A&M University with a BS in Education, specializing in English & Journalism.

Kim is a retired B.F. Terry High School counselor as well as a former 4-H co-leader. Over the years she has taught English on all levels—elementary school, middle school and high school. Often she served in a dual capacity—teaching and counseling. She has extensive experience in school policy and procedures and worked as a Lead Counselor at both Sugar Land Middle School and Terry High. Her problem solving skills are effective, and she is good at multi-tasking. She is a quick learner and has learned to navigate 4-H Connect like a pro.

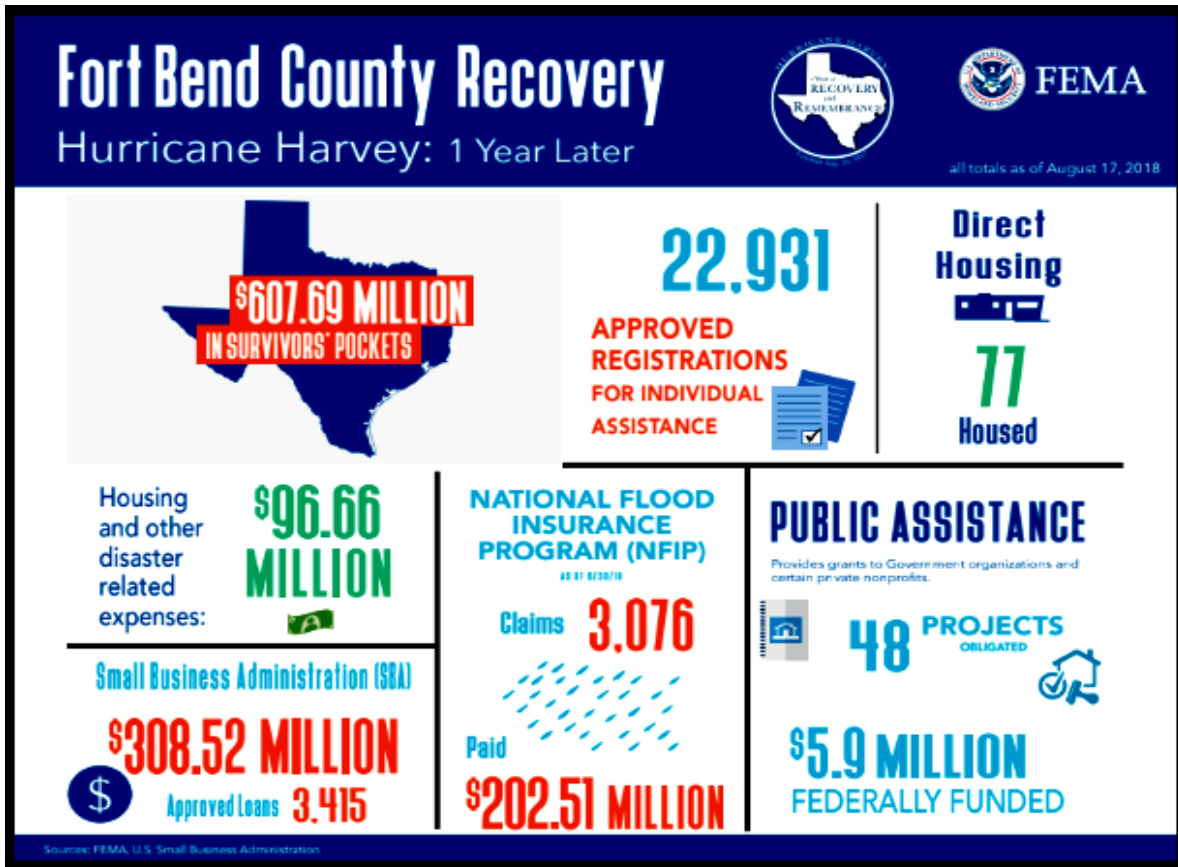
Again, please join me in welcoming her to Extension.



## A Year After Harvey...

This August 17th Infographic makes it easy to understand the facts and figures of the local recovery efforts throughout Texas following Hurricane Harvey. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has compiled, created, and regularly updated infographics during the recovery process that have provided information such as the assistance provided to date, the number of survivors in temporary housing, innovative repair programs, and more.

With the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey, FEMA has published an additional set of infographics that goes into more depth about the first year of the recovery process.



## EDEN— Extension Disaster Education Network

Texas Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) is a collaborative educational network dedicated to educating citizens about disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Texas EDEN is a part of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and is affiliated with National Extension Disaster Education Network.

This site is intended to accommodate Texas AgriLife Extension agents and all Texas citizens by sharing educational resources to reduce the impact of natural and man-made disasters for individuals, families, and communities.

The primary goals of Texas EDEN are to:

- Provide credible and reliable information relating to disaster preparedness and recovery for individuals, families, and urban and/or rural communities.
- Reduce the impact associated with disaster by disseminating educational materials related to disaster mitigation, preparedness, and recovery.

For more information, please contact us at: <https://texashelp.tamu.edu/>.

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRI LIFE**  
EXTENSION

**DISASTERS**

## From the FBC 4-H Team...



We're on the verge of a new 4-H year, but not before we bid the last one a fond farewell and congratulate our families on a job well done at our annual Awards Banquet. A big thank you to the Parent Leaders for their support to the program over the last year and for bringing it all together for our Day Camp and the Awards Banquet. Some of you may have already met our new Administrative Assistant here in the office. Please join us in welcoming Kim Vogler to the 4-H Family. For eligibility forms or any other help you might need, she can be reached at [kim.vogler@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:kim.vogler@ag.tamu.edu). As we announced previously, Justin Saenz is now at the Montgomery County office. Until his vacancy is filled, please contact the other members of the Fort Bend 4-H staff with questions or concerns. View the club listing, club locations, how to join 4-H, types of clubs, projects, awards & recognitions, keeping a record book and much more. To learn more about Fort Bend County 4-H please see: <https://agrilife.org/ftbend4h/>.

## Coming Soon—*PATH TO THE PLATE*



Path to the Plate is a research-based educational program that helps consumers understand how their food choices impact their health. The United States has the safest and most stable food supply in the world – but you wouldn't know it by listening to the "news".

- It helps consumers understand how their food choices impact their well-being by making the connection between agriculture and health.
- By understanding more about the path their food takes to their plate - how it's grown and produced - consumers can make better food choices for themselves and their families.
- Using research-based information, Path to the Plate aims to dispel popular myths and misconceptions about food production practices.
- This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Myths and misinformation about food production and its effect on our health is emerging ever-quickly through social media and other sources. This misinformation leads to misunderstanding of our agriculture systems and the positive connection these systems have to our health. Major topics include:

- Do you know what you are eating? (GMO, Non-GMO, GMO-Free, Local, Natural, Fresh, Organic, etc.)
- Organic terms: (Made with Organic\_\_\_, Organic, 100% Organic, USDA Certified Organic, No chemicals, etc.)
- Grain Terms: (Whole Grains, 100% Wheat, High in Fiber, Natural Grains, Fortified, etc.)
- Egg & Chicken Terms: (100% All Natural, USDA Organic, No Antibiotics, Cage-free, Free-range)
- Milk & Beef Terms: No rBST, No rBGH, Raw, Pasteurized, Ultra-pasteurized Milk, USDA Organic, Grass-fed)

Totally confused? Check out: <http://pathtotheplate.tamu.edu/>.

## Junior Master Naturalist—a new 4-H club in Fort Bend!



The Fort Bend County Extension office is looking for a few good volunteers to assist with the newly formed 4-H Junior Master Naturalist Club. To kick off the event a field day was held on Saturday, Sept. 15, with nearly 40 youth and adults present. Members of the Coastal Prairie Master Naturalist Club, under the direction of Amber Leung (CPMN President and Fort Bend County 4-H Program Coordinator). A sampling of the many topics covered by the Texas Master

Naturalist program was made available. The event was held at the Longpoint property of the James B. Harrison Foundation. If you are interested in enrolling a child in the 4-H Junior Master Naturalist Club, or if you are wanting to volunteer, simply contact Amber Leung at 281-342-3034 or email her at [Amber.Leung@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Amber.Leung@ag.tamu.edu).

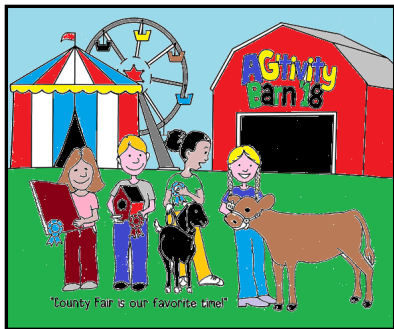
The Texas Junior Master Naturalist program will provide youth with an understanding of Texas' plants, water, soils, and wildlife while volunteering in local communities and developing a sense of stewardship in our environment. Everyone please help us spread the word about this exciting new program designed to get young people outdoors and more informed about /connected with our natural world!

# Fort Bend County Fair, est. 1933



Benefiting Youth, Promoting Agriculture and Supporting Education - The first Fort Bend County Fair was held in October 1933. The original Fairgrounds was located between Rosenberg and Richmond on Avenue H. The only interruption in the County Fair was during the years of World War II. In 1974, the Fairgrounds was moved to the existing location on State Highway 36 just south of U.S. Highway 59.

The youth of Fort Bend County have been the driving force of this organization for over 80 years. Youth education has always been a primary focus of fair activities. The development of a scholarship program in 1979 has provided deserving Fort Bend County students with scholarships to Texas colleges and universities. To date, over 800 scholarships have been awarded to deserving students.



Through the years, the Fort Bend County Fair and Rodeo has grown into one of the largest and most successful fairs in the state. Residents of the county eagerly anticipate visiting with friends and neighbors at some of the many activities the Fair and Rodeo has to offer during its 10-day run (September 28th - October 7th).

During this time, AgriLife Extension will be involved with the ever-popular AG'tivity Barn – Path to the Plate collection of 20 ag-awareness exhibits. Stop by and visit the exhibits and take time to study the Path to the Plate posters which tie farm products to healthy nutrition.

## Snap-Shot of 2018 Upcoming Events:



- Master Gardener Short Course—Oct. 4–Nov.1 (T&R) @ 9:00 am—3:00 pm
- Dist. 4-H Jr. Leadership Lab Reg. and Fees DUE—Oct. 11, 2017 @ 5:00 pm
- Child Care Providers' Ed. Trng. Reg. Deadline, Oct. 12 @ 5:00 pm.
- Grow Your Own—Niche Gardening—Oct. 13 @ 9-11:00 am
- Child Care Providers' Ed. Trng.—Oct. 20 @ 9-11:00 a.m.
- Giving Thy Bounty—Jams & Jellies—Nov. 2 at 9-12:00 noon
- Food Managers' Cert. Course Reg. Deadline—Nov. 7 @ 5:00 pm
- Food Managers' Cert. Course—Nov. 13 & 14 at 8:00am—5:00 pm
- Food Handlers' Course—Nov. 29 at 9-11:00 am
- Private Pesticide Applicators Training—Nov. 30 @ 8:30-12:00 noon
- Private Pesticide Applicators Training—Dec. 1 @ 8:30-12:00 noon

For all of the above programs visit:

[Fortbend.agrilife.org/](http://Fortbend.agrilife.org/) (Or call us at 281-342-3034)

## A Glimpse of Fort Bend County:

The 2018 population has reached 764,828 of which 41.4% are college educated, 88.5% are high-school graduates and earn an average household income of \$118,558. For over 20 years, Fort Bend has been in the top 20 counties in the U.S. for economic excellence and population growth - and that is by design and not by accident. "Among the largest counties (those with populations of 250,000 or more in 2015), Fort Bend, Texas, was the fastest growing, as its population climbed 4.3 percent between 2014 and 2015, to 741,237".

Excellent schools, affordable housing, planned communities and extensive recreational facilities have attracted families with impressive demographic profiles. These actions results in a local employment base that provides companies with a diverse mix of professional, technical, skilled, and unskilled labor with the highest educational levels in the region. To learn more go to: [www.fortbendcountytexas.gov/](http://www.fortbendcountytexas.gov/).



**Vincent J. Mannino**

**County Extension Director - Fort Bend County**

1402 Band Rd. Suite 100, Rosenberg, TX 77471

Phone: 281-342-3034, Fax: 281-633-7000

<http://fortbend.agrilife.org/>

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