

Fort Bend Ag & Natural Resources Newsletter

John L. Few IV, Fort Bend ANR Extension Agent
1402 Band Rd. Suite 100
Rosenberg, TX 77471



Prioritizing Today

Going into this Thanksgiving month I feel it is important that we truly cherish our friends and family while they are here with us. I want to open up a little about my personal life and some of the things and people who are important to me in this month's newsletter. I recently lost a brother from my music fraternity a little under a year ago and it has been a difficult thing for me to deal with. I, like many of us in the field of agriculture, have a tendency to hold in my emotions and try to stay as stoic as possible. As I have recently tried to reconnect with my passion for music, (I've played flute and bass guitar on and off throughout my life), I have found myself listening to a lot of music both new and old. This one song by the band Blink-182 called *One More Time* has become a very cathartic listen. It starts with the line:

"Strangers, from Strangers into Brothers, From Brothers into Strangers once again."

That line immediately hit me because when I was joining Phi Mu Alpha, the men I was in a membership class with were largely strangers I knew little about. It was the responsibility of my late brother to change the 7 of us in that membership class from Strangers into Brothers, a job of which he did incredibly well. Thanks to him, I now have 6 brothers who are just like blood relatives to me, ones I can rely on, and ones I can talk to about anything without judgement. The song further discusses the breakdown of the relationship within the band and their history, which is something I am sure anyone with long-term relationships with people can relate to. We get on each other's nerve for one reason or another or perhaps you just lose touch with each other.

The second line that really hit me was:

"Do I have to die to hear you miss me? Do I have to die to hear you say goodbye?"

"I don't want to act like there's tomorrow. I don't want to wait to do this one more time."

I unfortunately had lose touch with my late brother before he passed, my focus on my career and personal life just got in the way of prioritizing regular contact with not only him, but most of my brothers in the organization. His passing has changed that, however. I often find myself wishing I had more time with my brothers and has made me prioritize contact with the people I am close to. I don't want death to be a catalyst for fellowship with friends and family, not in my life or in your life either. Please don't act like there's tomorrow because you might not have the opportunity to talk to those important to you - One More Time. To my late brother who has played his final cord, know that you are always remembered and to everyone don't let your Brothers, Sisters, Family, or Friends become strangers this Thanksgiving season.

If you are having a hard time dealing with anything please reach out to the AgriStress Helpline for Texas at 833-897-2474 or the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988. Both are available via call or text.

For Agriculture/Natural Resources information, contact:

John L. Few IV
john.few@ag.tamu.edu

Dr. Abdul Hakeem
abdul.hakeem@ag.tamu.edu

For Horticulture, contact:

Boone Holladay
jb.holladay@ag.tamu.edu



Visit our office at
1402 Band Road, Ste. 100,
Rosenberg, TX 77471

281-342-3034

<https://fortbend.agrilife.org>

See all events at:
<https://fortbend.agrilife.org/events/>

Fort Bend Ag & Natural Resources Newsletter Continued

UPCOMING EVENTS

Agriculture Events

- 12/7/2023: Fort Bend County will be hosting the 8th Annual Town & Country 5 CEU Recertification Seminar in conjunction with Montgomery County. You can register at the link below or come into the office to register in person. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/8th-annual-town-country-5-hour-ceu-recertification-seminar-tickets-758952396047?aff=oddtcreator>
- 12/14/2023: District 8 Virtual Farm & Ranch Seminar - A multi-county Farm and Ranch Seminar for farmers and ranchers conducted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in District 8 and will be offered at the following counties: Bell, Bosque, Comanche, Coryell, Ellis, Erath, Freestone, Hill, Johnson, Limestone, McLennan, Navarro, Robertson and Williamson. To register and for more information, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/district-8-farm-and-ranch-virtual-seminar-8-hour-ceu-event-registration-749539321287?aff=oddtcreator>

If you have any suggestions or recommendations for Ag programs in the future, please feel free to reach out to us!

Horticulture Events

- 12/6/2023: Gardening in the Gulf Coast - Bring all your gardening questions and problems to our Texas A&M AgriLife Extension horticulture agents and specialists during this online discussion. To register, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gardening-in-the-gulf-coast-tickets-595051022627?aff=oddtcreator>
- 2/8/2024: 39th Annual Fort Bend Regional Vegetable Conference - Registration is available in person at our office or online. To register online or to see more information visit: <https://39thannualvegconf.eventbrite.com/> (Note: if paying online, processing fees will be incurred.)

GUN RAFFLE



Tickets are on sale now for the TCAA Gun Raffle now until December 15, 2023!

\$100 per ticket.

Winners to be announced on the [Texas County Agricultural Agents Association – TCAA in District 12](#) Facebook page live at noon on January 5, 2024.

Stop by our office: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension-Fort Bend County, 1402 Band Road, Ste. 100, Rosenberg, TX to purchase your ticket today! (If paying cash, please bring the exact amount.) Tickets are limited and will be sold on a first come first served basis.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Please note that our office will close at 2:30 pm on Wednesday, November 22. We will be closed for the day on both Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



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