

# Stay Hereford Strong

by Erika Evoniuk

Since mid-March our Hereford family has been challenged in many ways due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. Our youth have been sent home from school and are learning a new curriculum taught by parents. In many ways that new curriculum has been extended to the barn to be fulfilled (e.g., feed rations = math, cattle vaccination = science, breaking cattle = physical education).

## Conquering on

Our youth members have been robbed of the normal traditions of spring break, school dances and graduation. Many livestock shows have been cancelled, and these cancellations have increased their disappointment because they work so hard and look forward to the showing and seeing their cattle-showing friends.

While these times have been trying for our youth, they have



COURTESY OF 2020 TEXAS JUNIOR HEREFORD STATE SHOW

also been challenging for our members. Some are facing health issues and are more vulnerable during this time, others are facing financial struggles with loss of income, and we are all missing face-to-face interaction with our Hereford family.

In the midst of these challenging times, so much perseverance has occurred. Hereford leadership meetings still occurred but not under normal means and, instead, through virtual platforms. Showmanship contests have been conducted via video recording submissions. And while many activities were cancelled, working with Hereford cattle was not — and our passionate youth depicted that on social media all throughout the quarantine days.

We are all looking forward to getting back to normal; we each have a part to play to make that happen. Social distancing has significantly helped to flatten the curve, but as our economy starts to open back up, we can all take an extra step to gear up with a mask to cover our mouth and nose while in public.

Many members of our Hereford family have sewn masks for local businesses, family members and friends. If you are in need of a mask or want to add to your collection,

please support the National Hereford Women (NHW), who are selling Hereford face masks through our shop on Facebook.

We express our heartfelt appreciation to the current heroes on the front lines today, some of whom are our very own members serving as healthcare workers, emergency service providers, retail supply chain employees and contributors.

We are American Hereford breeders and enthusiasts, even if we have been separated. We can still work together to overcome the challenges we are facing. We will get through this and see each other again. Our timeline may get extended, but it will be achieved. Stay healthy!

## Become a member

Want to be a part of the NHW's board? Applications are due Aug. 1, 2020. You can email your application to [nationalherefordwomen@gmail.com](mailto:nationalherefordwomen@gmail.com).

Dues can be paid at any point throughout the year. A membership form can be found on the website or emailed to you. **NHW**

To join and to learn more about the NHW, visit [HerefordWomen.com](http://HerefordWomen.com) or email [nationalherefordwomen@gmail.com](mailto:nationalherefordwomen@gmail.com).



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