



Hidalgo County Commissioners Court

Richard F. Cortez
County Judge

David L. Fuentes
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Everardo "Ever" Villarreal
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Ellie Torres
Commissioner, Precinct 4

**OFFICE OF
COUNTY JUDGE
RICHARD F. CORTEZ**

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NEWS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, July 8, 2021

Judge Cortez hosts last cooking school

EDINBURG – Hidalgo County Judge Richard F. Cortez will host today the last Cooking School for Emergencies as part of his emergency preparedness series.

As Director of Emergencies for Hidalgo County, Judge Richard F. Cortez is responsible for the county's emergency response in case of any type of disaster. Cortez' Cooking School is a fun demonstration of preparing meals during those times when we are without power. The school also identifies the dangers associated with indoor cooking which may place your family at risk.

The live cooking demonstrations will be conducted by Judge Richard F. Cortez and City of McAllen Mayor Javier Villalobos with the help of Texas A&M AgriLife Agent Andrea Valdez. The Hidalgo County Fire Marshal will also present stove safety demonstrations and the Hidalgo County Emergency Management Office will demonstrate how to create your own home preparedness kit.

Registration is strictly required. Attendees will have a chance to win door prizes and walk away with an emergency preparation goodie bag. While the aim of the demonstration is to show the public how to prepare food with no power, the larger goal is to remind the public to have a plan in case of an emergency.

"From an unprecedented freeze that affected much of our region's electrical and water systems to Hurricane Hanna and the ensuing floods to our ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the residents of Hidalgo County have been tested like few other times in our history," Judge Cortez said. "This fun-filled evening is just a reminder that we all need to be prepared."

WHO: Hidalgo County Judge Richard F. Cortez
City of McAllen Mayor Javier Villalobos
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service-Hidalgo County

WHAT: Free Cooking School for Emergencies Demonstration

WHEN: Thursday, July 8, 2021
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: McAllen Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
1200 Ash Ave. McAllen, TX 78501

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Hidalgo County is home to one of the fastest growing regions in the nation. We provide health and justice to the over 800,000 residents of our county. We strive to be accessible and responsive to our citizens by providing excellent public service through the values of leadership, transparency, fairness, collaboration, respect and fiscal responsibility. Follow our social media feed at www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/followus