

Three area schools receive \$5,000 donation

Funding will go toward agriculture projects

Three schools in Uvalde County each received a \$5,000 donation from the Uvalde chapter of Texas Agri-women on Feb. 4. The donation was given to Knippa, Utopia and Sabinal Independent School Districts, individually. Funds are given to the school to use at their discretion for projects relating to agriculture.

Karen Sullivan, secretary for Texas Agri-women, said, the organization recognizes the funding need of these schools, with no other outside source supplementing their programs.

The Uvalde chapter of Texas Agri-women is a coalition of women with dedication to supporting the agriculture industry. Their role in community is multi-faceted, ranging from educational awareness, scholarships, agriculture technology and policy advocating.

Exercising their educational outreach, the group organizes an annual ag fair for fourth-graders in Uvalde County, where students are exposed to con-



Staff members at Sabinal ISD accept a \$5,000 donation from Texas Agri-Women. Present for the donation were (left to right) Sabinal High School Principal Steve Alvarado, Agri-Women president Samantha Shannon, Sabinal teachers Robert Valadez and Douglas Flansburg, Agri-Women member Merlyn Verstuyft, and Sabinal ISD Superintendent Richard Grill.



Texas Agri-Women members (front, left to right) Samantha Shannon and Merlyn Verstuyft present a \$5,000 donation to teacher Kelsey Yeamen and her eleventh grade class.

cepts such as conservation, agri-business, food origins, and the ecology system. Funding for Texas Agri-Women transpires through donations and an annual fundraiser, "Banquet in the Field," a dining occasion where attendees enjoy local food from Texas farms and ranches.

The third-annual Banquet in the Field will take place April 27 at 501 Ranch.

Texas Agri-Women has been active in Uvalde County for 30 years. Uvalde chapter board members include Samantha Shannon, president; Kristin Anderson, vice president; Karen Sullivan, secretary; and Karen Barnes, treasurer.

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Texas Agri-Women present a \$5,000 donation to the agriculture department at Utopia School. Funding will go towards a drone project. The check was presented on Feb. 4 in Utopia. Pictured are (front row, left to right) Utopia Superintendent Jessi Milam, ag teacher Amanda Dean, Agri-Women president Samantha Shannon, Agri-Women member Merlyn Verstuyft, (middle row) Kayleen Weaver, Peyton Deichler, Riley Smothers, Judah Duff, David Councilman, Ryan Snow, Sierra Chanack, (back) Hayden Loman, Taylor Lehman and Ty Cox.