June 19, 2020

**A NOTE FROM HEATH CHEEK**

As we look ahead to the Fall, we all remain concerned about the ongoing pandemic and how it will affect our fall traditions, especially the State Fair of Texas. While those of us working on planning for SFT would love to get more certainty, we certainly cannot deny the value of prudence in light of everything that has happened this crazy year. What we can tell you with certainty, however, is: (1) pandemic or not, some form of the Youth Livestock Auction will be held this Fall; (2) the needs of the kids we support do not stop even if physical events do not occur; and (3) as a result, it is as important as ever for those of us in the SFT Development Committees to keep pushing forward on raising money for these kids.

As I said in my last letter, I believe that the path to returning this world to "somewhat normal" requires all of us to at least start taking some steps towards normal. These steps ay be different for each individual based on one's own situation and comfort level. Some "somewhat normal" steps may be nothing more than calling a donor or sending an email. But each individual step is important because it starts getting us towards the goal of helping the youth of Texas.

Rain or shine we're still planning our official SFT Auction Kick-Off event on July 9th at the Dallas Country Club. It is going to be a mad dash to complete our fundraising between July and September, but we can get it done. If you are unable to attend personally (whatever the reason) we certainly understand and will have a video conference available for you all to attend virtually if you prefer. Whether it is in person or over a computer screen, we look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Thank you,

R. Heath Cheek

Auction Committee Chair