Urban Centra – Ongoing Legislative Contacts

After a successful legislative session, it may seem like we can relax. But actually now is the time to continue building our legislative contacts to ensure our continued success for the next session. Our upcoming Centra on Wednesday, November 4 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. will feature just that topic presented by Cristina Cornejo. She will present ideas on how to effectively interpret your programs to elected officials and how to develop an ongoing relationship with their office.

Cristina Cornejo joined the External Relations team as Program Coordinator in December 2008. Cristina joins the AgriLife team after serving as Director of Communications for the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association (TIPRO). Prior to her work there, Cristina served as Legislative Director for Texas State Representative Yvonne Gonzalez Toureilles, where she focused on a wide array of issues including agriculture, energy, juvenile justice and criminal justice.

Cristina was also employed by the Advertising Council in Washington D.C., where she helped manage the public relations, and media outreach efforts for five national public service campaigns, including Homeland Security. Cristina has worked for members in both the U.S. House and the Senate. A graduate of Texas A&M University, Cristina is a native of South Texas.

We are fortunate to have Cristina on the AgriLife team and we are honored that she would present this Centra training to help us better make effective legislative contacts. This is a tremendous opportunity to learn more about making legislative contacts from someone who has lots of experience in the political arena at both the state and national levels. The URL for the Urban Centra is:

http://webconference.tamus.edu/GA/main/00000049764b0000011ea7d379f68c08
Extension in the City Award

Do you have a state legislator from your county who has been a great supporter of Extension? Here is an opportunity to recognize that legislator with the Extension in the City award!

The Extension in the City award is presented to an elected official during AgriLife Conference each January. The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding support and leadership by elected officials for Texas AgriLife Extension Service urban programs.

Nominations can be made by employees in any population center in Texas. This year the award will be presented to an elected official at the state level.

The guidelines and nomination form are attached to this email and are posted at http://agrilifeemployees-ext.tamu.edu/doatask.cfm. Nominations may be submitted at any time and the deadline for nominations is November 19, 2009.

Spotlight

Sheryl Nolan, Harris County CEA-UYPD, has been named to serve on the National 4-H SET in Urban Communities Advisory Team. The team is made up of members from across the nation. Their task is to help shape our 4-H SET work in urban communities. We know that Sheryl will represent us well and will bring back lots of good ideas to enhance our 4-H SET activities in urban settings.

McLennan county has an excellent parenting program that is really making a difference. The lesson series includes six classes: child development, understanding your parenting style, positive discipline, dealing with emotions in children, communication in the family, and keeping children safe. Her audience are high risk parents referred from CPS and probation, as well as residents at a drug and alcohol rehabilitation facility. Last year the program reached over 400 high risk parents.

Contact: Linda Russell, CEA-FRM, McLennan County