Upcoming Centra on Garnering Grants

Just a reminder that our next urban Centra (webinar) will be on Thursday, January 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. CST. The topic of Garnering Grants will be of high interest to urban and urban initiative counties.

Grants are becoming much more of a way of life for urban counties by necessity. Three University of Florida urban County Extension Directors (Kissimmee, Tampa/St. Pete, Palm Beach) who each manage over $3 million in grants discuss the partnerships, process and particulars of funding, applying for and administering grants at the county level. This presentation will be routed through the southern region to urban county Extension faculty.

This webinar will be hosted by the University of Florida and we will use their webinar (Centra) system to participate. Registration is simple and can be found at: https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register

You will receive reminder notices the day before and one hour prior to the event. Either of those emails will have a link to join the event.

Congratulations

Congratulations to our urban and urban initiative faculty and staff that received awards at the recent AgriLife Conference in College Station!

Superior Service Awards:

- Brent Baugh, Lubbock County
- Starla Garlick, Jefferson County
- Marian Ross, Tarrant County
- Caroline Cruz, Montgomery County
- Orlando Flores, El Paso County
- Maggie Johnson, Williamson County
- Michelle Mihaelek, Montgomery County
- Sheryl Nolan, Harris County
- Jimmy Rodgers, El Paso County
- David Wright, Williamson County
- Barbara Storz, Hidalgo County
Congratulations (continued)

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Epsilon Sigma Phi Awards:

Dolores Sandmann, Travis County  
Elizabeth Trejo, Harris County  
Abneshia Steele, Harris County  
Marilyn Simmons, Galveston County  
Sandy Fry, Fort Bend County  
Peggy Coleman, Jefferson County  
Helen Mueller, Galveston County  
Mary Staff, Fort Bend County  
Joe Mask, Fort Bend County  
Mike Heimer, Montgomery County  
William Johnson, Galveston County  
Vince Mannino, Fort Bend County

Vice Chancellor’s Awards in Excellence:

Carrie Huntsinger, Bexar County

Spotlight

A Fruits, Pecans and Grapes: Small Acreage Horticultural Crops Webinar was conducted recently from Tarrant County. The target audience for this program was individuals considering a new horticultural crop enterprise on small acreage. 12 individuals (8 females and 4 males) participated in the program which included an agent led session entitled “Choosing Your Market, Choosing Your Crops”, a webinar with presentations on peach, pecan, and wine/grape production from Extension specialists in Fredericksburg, Uvalde, and Lubbock and concluded with a networking and Q&A session. A few participant comments follow: "I appreciated the networking opportunities" and “It is good to know that there are experts who will help you out even for smaller land owners".

Contact: Laura Miller, CEA Commercial Horticulture, Tarrant County

An informational meeting was held on the Walking School Bus project. The meeting was organized by Extension and Fort Worth ISD. Participants were presented a summary of information regarding the possibility of implementing the Walking School Bus at pilot sites in 2010. They shared information on its implementation in various places, benefits and challenges, funding options and possibilities. At the conclusion of the meeting participants were asked to determine the possibilities of such a program being conducted at their school sites and to complete a survey and neighborhood assessment tool. A total of four FWISD schools and neighborhoods were represented along with one Arlington YMCA location.

Contact: Monica Santiago, CEA Community Development, Tarrant County