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, August 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. will feature just that topic presented by Cristina Cornejo.

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/main/tce
Young Leader Receives National Award

Natalie Ruiz-Castillo, President of the Randolph Air Force Base Teen 4-H Club, was named winner of the 2009 Air Force Services Youth of the Year Award by Headquarters Air Education Training Command. The award recognizes teens for outstanding contributions to a member's family, school and community as well as how they overcome obstacles and personal challenges. Ms. Ruiz-Castillo participates in community service by taking meals to the Fisher House and Wounded Warrior Lounge at Fort Sam Houston, has taken top honors in photo contests and has been involved with 4-H activities at the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo for several years.

Spotlight

Thirty-seven (37) individuals participated in the Elected Officials Ag Tour of Fort Bend County held recently. City, County, State, and Federal elected officials who represent Fort Bend County were invited and did attend. Guests met at the Extension office and boarded a bus for the tour that included visits to Enchanted Gardens, Pavlok Farmers Market, Moore Ranch, Wendt’s Rice Farm and Stasney’s Farm. Participants returned to the Extension office for an evening meal and an introduction to the various Agriculture and Horticulture committees and task forces.

Contact: Vince Mannino, CED, Fort Bend County