

2006
NATIONAL AND
REGIONAL AWARDS





Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to congratulate the 2006 NEAFCS award and fellowship winners.

Annual Session is a wonderful time to celebrate the contributions that NEAFCS members are making to our profession, our families and our communities. I am so impressed by the excellence in educational programs and high technology in our regional and national award winners. I would like to say a personal thanks to all of the 496 national and regional applications that were submitted.

Our award winners have “Reached New Heights” through the great educational programs and opportunities that they provide. Again, please accept my congratulations and best wishes.

A handwritten signature in orange ink that reads "Sandy McLain". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sandy McLain
2005-2006 NEAFCS President

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AWARD CATEGORIES & SPONSORS



Fellowships

Greenwood Fellowship

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

This fellowship gives members an opportunity to pursue professional improvement through graduate study in the area of their own choosing.

Grace Fryinger Fellowship

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

This fellowship provides an opportunity for members to study and observe family and consumer sciences education in other states or countries.

Professional Development Awards

Distinguished Service Award

PLAQUES PROVIDED BY: **A&T INDUSTRIES**

Wendell Garnhart

1602 16th Street, Barron, WI 54812

The Distinguished Service Award is the highest award presented by NEAFCS. The award recognizes members for leadership, educational program efforts and professional development.

Continued Excellence Award

PLAQUES PROVIDED BY: **A&T INDUSTRIES**

The award recognizes members who have previously received the Distinguished Service Award and continue to be actively involved in profession-

al improvement programs and promoting professional development and leadership.

Extension Educator of the Year

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

This award is to recognize a professional Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Educator who is conducting outstanding educational programs that demonstrate impact on families.

Florence Hall Award

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

The Florence Hall Award is presented for an outstanding program conducted by one or more NEAFCS members who have been alert in recognizing new concerns and interests of families and have involved people in planning and implementing programs that benefit families.

New Professional Award

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS PAST**

NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Cheryle Jones-Syracuse (Chair)
Ohio State University Extension
39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH
44047-1137

This award is presented to an outstanding new professional, but must be used to help defray the cost of attending the recipient's first NEAFCS Annual Session.

Para-Professional Award

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

This award recognizes outstanding service to special audiences through the use of para-professionals working with or supervised by Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Educators.

Program Awards

Dean Don Felker Financial Management Award

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

This award recognized the development of financial management programs which help individuals and families make decisions and plans for their present and future needs.

Mary W. Wells Diversity Award

SPONSORED BY: **STATE AFFILIATES & INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

This award recognizes outstanding efforts and accomplishments of individuals and/or teams in diversity and pluralism for any Extension Family and Consumer Sciences program or activity, including staff development, advisory councils, programs, etc.

Healthy Lifestyles Education Grant

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

Awarded to individual(s) with goals to create educational programs and public awareness emphasizing current health issues, including nutrition, fitness, and healthy lifestyle education.

Program Excellence Through Research Award

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

This award emphasizes the use of research results to improve existing programs or to develop new programs.

Environmental Education Award

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

This award recognizes NEAFCS members for outstanding educational programs conducted for families and/or communities on various environmental issues/concerns.

Extension Housing Outreach Award

SPONSORED BY: **MONTANA STATE UNIV.**

Michael Vogel, FCS Program Leader
Housing & Environmental Quality
Bozeman, MT 59717

Recognizes outstanding housing educational programs conducted for families and/or communities.

Early Childhood Child Care Training

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS OHIO AFFILIATE (OEAFCS)**

Honoring Extension Professional
Anita Pulay

This award recognizes outstanding childcare professional training that addresses the needs of young children, birth to eight years of age.

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2006 NEAFCS NATIONAL AWARDS

CATEGORIES & SPONSORS

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Food Safety Award

SPONSORED BY: **UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN EXTENSION**

Elbert Dickey, Dean and Director
211 Agricultural Hall
Lincoln, NE 68583-0703

This award recognizes NEAFCS members for outstanding educational programs conducted for families, school nutrition workers, food industry employees or managers, church workers preparing meals, home care providers, and other groups/individuals preparing and/or serving food.

Clean Homes...Healthy Families Program Award

SPONSORED BY: **SOAP & DETERGENT ASSOCIATION**

Nancy Bock
1500 K Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005

Recognizes NEAFCS members for their innovative educational programs that help families and individuals understand the link between clean homes and good health.

4-H Excellence in Afterschool Programming Award

SPONSORED BY: **JCPENNEY AFTERSCHOOL FUND**

Edward W. Solczak
Executive Vice President
P.O. Box 10001
Dallas, TX 75301-8101

This award recognizes excellence in development and implementation of after-school programming or providing enrichment to ongoing programs through curriculum and/or training for staff.

Communications Awards

SPONSORED BY: **AMERICAN INCOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**

William Viar, Special Risk Division
P.O. Box 50158
Indianapolis, IN 46250

Established in 1972 to encourage excellence in communications, awards are given for the following categories: Newsletters, Radio, Television, Written News, Overhead Transparencies, Educational Technology, Educational Curriculum Package, and Educational Publications.

Public Relations Awards

Marketing Package Award

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

This award recognizes NEAFCS members for outstanding marketing efforts that address the concerns and needs of children, families or communities.

Community Partnership Award-

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

Recognizes NEAFCS members for outstanding community partnership efforts in meeting the needs of families through collaboration with group, agencies and consumers.

NATIONAL AWARDS



FELLOWSHIPS

Greenwood Fellowship

**Sharon Louise McDonald
(Pennsylvania)**

Advances in web-based technology for distance education must be implemented and embraced by Extension to continue to fulfill its mission. Her master's research paper will examine current use of technological tools in Extension program delivery, knowledge, beliefs and attitudes of Extension Educators about these tools and implementation in program delivery.

Grace Frysinger Fellowship

**Cassandra Sue Corridon
(Maryland)**

The MCE mentoring plan was developed to partner new employees with tenured, experienced faculty. The Grace Frysinger Grant will provide Corridon, the first Mentoring Coordinator, with the opportunity to visit states with established mentoring programs and use that experience to develop, improve and expand the fledgling MCE Mentoring Program.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Distinguished Service Award

CENTRAL REGION

Kim J. Bearnese (Nebraska)

Creating understanding of learning styles, cultural preferences, and generational diversity education is a key core to the success of Kim Bearnese, Extension Educator UNL Thurston County, Nebraska. While specializing in Native American programming, Kim provides career development and leadership emphasis for youth and adults.

Diane Louise Burnett (Kansas)

Throughout her 15-year career in Kansas Extension, Diane Burnett has provided leadership and given technical expertise in the development and implementation of a wide variety of research-based FCS programs. Her greatest areas of accomplishment and satisfaction include a family resource management specialty and a foods and nutrition programming emphasis.

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2006 NEAFCS NATIONAL AWARDS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

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Teresa A. Clark-Jones (Michigan)

Terry Jones has developed programs to meet the needs of families in Washtenaw County for 15 years. Her parenting and financial management programs have reached over 700 families per year through home visits and classes. She has become the main referral source in her community for parenting and financial literacy.

Amy Dianne Griswold (Illinois)

Amy Griswold has been a member of IEAFCS/NEAFCS for 22 years. Amy shows leadership in program development and association participation including IEAFCS state board, ESP state officer, and statewide committees and task forces. She provides excellence in development and implementation of Extension programs specializing in adult life and aging.

Lori Ann Hendrickson (Minnesota)

During Lori's 18 years with the University of Minnesota Extension Service, Lori has worked with a variety of family resource management issues. Lori's recent work as a member of the Youth & Money team reflects her passion for working with young people and real life issues which they must address.

Melinda Jane Hill (Ohio)

Melinda has been strengthening families in Wayne County for 18 years with programs addressing childhood

obesity, preserving family memories, long-distance relationships, cooking & nutrition information and other requested topics. She created after-school programming for over 600 children, served on numerous state committees, and authored several fact sheets.

Terri Lynn Newcom (Indiana)

Beginning her career in 1986, Terri has logged in 20 years as an Extension Educator. Her focus has been in Parenting, Child Care and Teen Pregnancy, addressing needs as they arise in the county. Terri developed a parenting curriculum for abusive and neglectful parents called Parenting Piece By Piece.

Amy L. Peterson (Nebraska)

Innovative healthy lifestyle, food safety, and 4-H youth development education are the keys to success Amy Peterson has had as an Extension educator for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension. Collaborating with local and regional funding partners helps provide exciting and educational opportunities for adults and youth in southeastern Nebraska.

Karen Louise Richey (Indiana)

Karen Richey is the County Extension Director and Extension Educator, Consumer & Family Sciences in Marshall County, Indiana. Her 15-year position with Purdue University Extension encompasses numerous responsibilities such as county, state and national program development and implementation in food safety

and nutrition, resource development, interagency collaboration, and community development.

**Ruth Ann Schmeichel
(South Dakota)**

Ruth Schmeichel is a certified ServSafe & Food Safety Re-certification instructor, an All Women Count! Interventionist providing nutrition & physical activity education to women, and facilitator of the CYFAR program which aids low income families with young children by increasing physical activity and promoting good nutrition in Central South Dakota.

**Ruth Navrestad Schriefer
(Wisconsin)**

Ruth N. Schriefer has worked for the University of Wisconsin-Extension since 1983 and became the Iowa County Family Living Agent in 1995. Program priorities focus on financial literacy, providing resources and support for limited income individuals and families, and creating public awareness of the needs of families with limited resources.

Rebecca Ann Wallace (Kansas)

Financial and physical fitness have been the focus of successful programs that have reached hundreds of youth and adults. These include Financial Information Training (FIT) series, starting investment clubs, adult and youth scholarships, LifeS-marts, High School Financial Planning Program, Asset Building (IDA's), Walk Kansas, Health Fairs, and Strong Women.

Renette E. Wardlow (Missouri)

Renette Wardlow, M.S., Ozark, Missouri has been a human development specialist for 19 years. She is recognized for her award winning work in creating a domestic violence shelter and task force in her rural community. Renette is known for her ability to work with at risk and hard to reach audiences.

Treva Darlene Williams (Ohio)

Treva Williams has been an Extension Educator for 19 years. She currently works in Scioto County, Ohio with Family and Consumer Sciences and Community Development responsibilities. Her major area of program focus is Family Life with programming in the areas of aging adult development and child development.

Barbara Wollan (Iowa)

One focus of Barb Wollan's work is improving quality of life for at-risk audiences, reaching them directly with financial education and providing training to the agencies which serve them. Barb has also been a leader in retirement planning education, developing resources that are used nationwide and through creative local programming.

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EASTERN REGION

Marilyn A. Corbin (Pennsylvania)

As Associate Director and State Program Leader, Marilyn Corbin provides effective administrative leadership forming program partnerships leading to enhanced state and national funding for extension family and consumer science programs—especially for nutrition, health and youth development. Marilyn is a dedicated extension professional who strives for excellence and quality.

M. Annette Kratzer (Pennsylvania)

M. Annette Kratzer, an educator in a multi-county region, provides leadership in Family Strengths with an emphasis on trainings for child care providers. She expands her programming through grants that include PANEP, Child Care Resource Development and Workforce – Community Bridges. She is Cooperative Extension Director in Union County, Pennsylvania.

Dianne Margaret Miiller (Maryland)

Educating and empowering underserved families is the focus of Dianne's work. Her responsibilities include the management of the EFNEP and FSNE programs, and the development and presentation of nutrition and food safety programs. Major accomplishments include her

work with the Latino Community, Food Safety Programs and the Neighborhood GRIME Watch.

Maria R. Pippidis (Delaware)

Through leadership and dedication, Maria Pippidis has provided quality extension education in the areas of financial management, food safety, nutrition and community development. Her dedication to adult education methodology has assisted many clients in achieving their goals. She has been mentor, leader and visionary for extension programming in Delaware.

Marilyn L. Sullivan (New Hampshire)

For over 13 years in Merrimack County, Marilyn has contributed to improving the quality of life and success of families. Marilyn provides educational programming, leadership, and support around family economics issues, food safety and healthy lifestyle behaviors. She works with diverse audiences and targets teaching methodologies to their needs.

Gloria F. Wagner (West Virginia)

Gloria Wagner contributed significantly to chronic disease prevention and nutrition education programs in West Virginia, focusing on cancer, diabetes and nutrition. She has served as Extension Agent in two counties. Her leadership brought to her communities critical health and nutrition programs as well as funding and collaboration to sustain them.

SOUTHERN REGION

Evelyn W. Acklin (Mississippi)

Evelyn Acklin, Area Nutrition & Food Safety Agent and 24-year educator, provides research-based programming opportunities through traditional and non-traditional teaching methods including workshops, newsletters, news articles, TV spots, and personal contacts, to name a few, for ten Southeast Mississippi counties with the potential to reach over 50,000 citizens.

Karen D. Armbruster (Oklahoma)

Karen Armbruster has presented Nutrition, Health and Wellness programs in Northwest Oklahoma's Woods County for the past 25 years. Karen also presents marriage and divorce classes and she enjoys sharing innovative nutrition programs with all ages and truly believes the county is her classroom.

Geissler G. Baker (North Carolina)

Geissler is a nutrition expert dedicated to teaching consumers to eat right and control lifestyle habits. Her high quality educational programs empower and motivate clients to improve their health. An enthusiastic love of teaching, concern for people, and contagious enthusiasm make this Extension agent stand out among the rest.

Laquita Dawn Barnes (Virginia)

Dawn is Senior Extension Agent, FCS in Floyd County. Recent financial programming reached 2,213 students

through 23 school personnel and 240 volunteers. Recognizing 18 years of quality programming, a local judge requested an educational component for bad check writers who appear before him. It has been requested by other courts.

Cheryl Aldridge Beck (North Carolina)

Throughout her 26 year career with Cooperative Extension, Cheryl's focus has been on meeting people's needs where they are. Her innovative and fun learning opportunities in all areas of FCS—in particular, foods/nutrition and human development—have people requesting more of her programs.

Shirlene N. Booker (Tennessee)

With 20 years service, Shirlene has served as Youth Agent and Area EFNEP Agent with responsibilities in five counties, managing 13 Program Assistants. She is presently an FCS Agent providing programming in Nutrition and Food Safety, Environment, and Human Development. She has been awarded numerous state and national awards.

Judith L. Corbus (Florida)

Judy Corbus, a multi-county agent with UF/IFAS Extension since 1993, programs in the areas of housing, resource management, consumer education, and nutrition. Since 1998, 136 residents have purchased homes and 118 persons have set up family

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DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

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spending plans as a result of Extension programs in Washington and Holmes Counties.

Terri L. Crawford (Louisiana)

Worked for LSU AgCenter 20 years. Most recent work focuses on obesity issue through conducting the National Award Winning programs, Portions for adults and Delta HOPE initiative for children. Has worked on innovative community participatory based research project with USDA through the Lower Mississippi Delta Nutrition Intervention Research Initiative.

Mary E. Crisp (Florida)

Betsy Crisp has served as the only FCS agent in Pasco County for the past 18 years. She has developed and implemented a wide variety of programs. She is most proud of her employee workshop series that started in 1997 and has consistently shown positive results and impacts.

LaVetta Anne Davis (Arkansas)

Nutrition, Health and Wellness has been identified by the County Extension Council in Hempstead County as an area of emphasis for programming. Problems identified were obesity, poor eating habits and lack of physical activity. A variety of programs and methods have been conducted over the last three years.

Diana Wells Doggett (Kentucky)

In 1987, Diana Doggett began her Extension career and returned as Fayette FCS Agent in 1998. She has maintained a commitment to professional involvement and links this to being an effective educator. County programs reflect her interest in improving lives for an urban audience, often through collaboration with other agencies.

Jane C. Holubec (Texas)

During her 24 year tenure with the Texas Cooperative Extension Service, Jane Holubec has consistently conducted high quality educational programs. Through the effective use of volunteers, strong committee/task force structure, and educational activities, many individuals and families in McCulloch County have made many positive changes for themselves and their family members.

April Brooks Martin (Tennessee)

April has worked for 15 years in both youth development and family and consumer science programming. Outstanding programs have included The Meth Problem in Our County, developed for youth and featured on the national Farm Report channel; beginning sewing classes; and teaching financial management to high school students.

Robbie Jackson Melton (Tennessee)

Robbie Jackson Melton has been with University of Tennessee Extension for thirty years. She began her

career in Cocke County with the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program. In 1977, she was appointed Assistant Extension Agent in Overton County. She is recognized for her work in teen pregnancy prevention and radon.

Diane Teel Miller (Georgia)

Diane joined the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service as a Family and Consumer Sciences County Agent in January of 1995. She has participated in the CYFAR grant and the food stamp education programs offered in Georgia. Reducing chronic disease and positive family development are the priorities for her county.

Carolyn Ann Osborn (Texas)

Carolyn Osborn is an encourager and provides a wealth of information to Atascosa County residents. She uses a variety of techniques and methods in making learning sessions fun. She supports diabetes education, nutrition, stress management, and alcohol awareness as many platforms of education for families and teen parents.

Sondra McDaniel Parmer (Alabama)

Sondra Parmer has had a successful career with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System for the past 12 years. She has been active with professional associations, won numerous awards, and has been acknowledged as a leader in her field. Her

educational programs have received state and national recognition.

Kathy Lou Smith (Texas)

Kathy Smith provides nutrition and health education to the residents of Parker County. She conducted education for type 2 diabetes using the Do Well Be Well with Diabetes and Cooking Well with Diabetes curricula. She has also made an impact conducting food safety classes for food serving employees and managers.

Marsha Mitchell Smith (North Carolina)

To address childhood obesity issues, Marsha Smith has conducted programming in Power of Choice, Families Eating Smart and Moving More, Color Me Healthy, and Sybershop. She organized a county Coalition for Healthy Children, coordinates a weekly Eat Smart Move More newspaper column, and provides nutritional counseling to referred families.

Annie Sylesdra Tinsley (Texas)

Annie Tinsley, Family and Consumer Sciences Agent for Dallas County provides programs to improve skills in family life issues and financial literacy. Her main goals in teaching individuals are: improving communication skills, building self-esteem, effective discipline, child abuse prevention, anger management, money management and responding to emerging issues.

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Joy Kay Vazquez (Texas)

Joy Vazquez addresses issues unique to Webb County due to its social, cultural, and geographically situation, including literacy projects for low-literacy and limited-English audiences, nutrition and health education for a largely Hispanic population, and grant-funded Homeland Security programming for the Mexican border county, saving local jurisdictions almost \$60,000 on training.

Adrienne O. Vidrine (Louisiana)

Extension Agent with the LSU AgCenter for 22 years. Primary area of programming responsibility is Family Resource Management for which she received her specialization in 2001. She has presented programs on First Time Home Buying, Predatory Lending, Transferring Non-Titled Property, and Basic Financial Management among others.

WESTERN REGION

Deborah Ann Alpe (Colorado)

Deborah's goal as an Extension Agent is to be responsive to emerging community issues. Her education and experience reflect a commitment to diversity and an appreciation for the results of collaborative efforts that engage people from all walks of life, working together to improve their community.

Lynne Beam (New Mexico)

During her enriching 26 year career with New Mexico and Oklahoma Cooperative Extension, Lynne had enthusiastically served the residents of two counties with numerous family and consumer science and 4-H programs. Having the opportunity to work with wonderful clientele in both states has made her job exciting and rewarding.

Jeanne D. Brandt (Oregon)

Jeanne Brandt helps older adults and their caregivers face the challenges of maintaining a high quality of life and maximum independence. She guides youth and adults through activities and interactions that increase their understanding of multicultural communication and addresses indoor air issues such as mold for multicultural audiences.

Joan L. Chong (Hawaii)

Creating a Vision, Discovering Solutions, and Building the Future has been the driving force behind Joan's family consumer science and youth development educational programs. Working collaboratively with agencies and colleagues to provide educational programs for diverse audiences, her program areas include Youth-Adult Partnerships, leadership development, healthy lifestyles, and personal/home safety.

Corinne P. Cramer (Montana)

A challenging innovator getting youth involved and using financial skills immediately. Programs of

exceptional quality: Money Savvy, Youth Tycoons and a Kid's Check Program. Youth use financial calculators, work with a banker on credit, purchase stock, do on-line financial transactions, and actually opening their own savings & checking accounts.

Patti Lynne Griffith (Wyoming)

As a county director for EFNEP and FSNEP programs, she initiated lesson updates and format changes to help new employees teach more successfully and insure more consistency in the delivery throughout the state. An Extension Educator since 2003, she focuses on teaching health at any weight and Dining with Diabetes.

Catherine L. Lamp (California)

Cathi's strong county-based program focuses on children, nutrition, and poverty. She has received several grants throughout her career to enhance her program efforts, most notably in the area of parent education. She has received both national and state award honors for her research and educational programs in nutrition and health.

Margie P. Memmott (Utah)

With a multiple-role assignment as Juab County Director and FCS/Youth Agent, Margie produces a wide variety of impact programming and promotes Extension as NEAFCS Western Region Director. In 2005, Margie was instrumental in acquiring

over \$125,000 to continue education in nutrition, early intervention youth mentoring, and bankruptcy prevention financial management.

Continued Excellence Award

CENTRAL REGION

Debra K. Bartman (Illinois)

Working in Extension for 27 years, Debra Bartman is a consumer and family economics educator serving 12 counties, to teach adults and youth financial management, consumer protection and indoor air quality. Debbie enjoys working with the External Marketing Task Force to use Living Well materials to market Extension's FCS programs.

Gail Louise Brand (Nebraska)

The last three years Gail has helped organize professional development for NeEAFCS members by having On-Campus Professional Development Days. She also works with new extension staff members in the Southeast District on professional development.

Kathy Dothage (Missouri)

Human development, family studies is the focus of Kathy's multi-county work. She has been employed with University of Missouri Extension and an NEAFCS member for over thirty six years. Kathy has worked on the state level and served as Vice Presi-

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CONTINUED EXCELLENCE

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dent of Professional Development and currently is secretary of NEAFCS.

Linnette Mizer Goard (Ohio)

Linnette has served the clientele of Ohio State University Extension for 20 years. She specializes in nutrition education. She currently serves on their state Senior Series team which partners with professionals from the Ohio Aging Network. Current programming focuses on nutrition and food safety topics for clientele and professionals.

Kimberly Ann Greder (Iowa)

Greder, a 15-year member, provides leadership for parenting and food security. She has reached 10,000 people through distance learning, held numerous FCS officer positions, authored over 30 journal articles, book chapters, policy briefs and curricula, and generated approximately \$4 million to support extension programs and research.

Rosemary Koziolk Heins (Minnesota)

Rosemary K. Heins' team work includes Dollar Works curriculum, Culture and Money fact sheets, and Tax Education for Service Providers to low income families. Over 1300 Anoka County residents have taken a "Dollars Into Sense" basic financial management class offered monthly for 8 years. Rosemary is an AFCPE Accredited Financial Counselor.

Vanessa Gayle Hoines (North Dakota)

Throughout Vanessa's 22 year career in Extension, she has been committed to forming collaborative partnerships with local organizations to create new opportunities for programming. Programming has focused on parent/child relationships, food safety, nutrition, and youth development. She has actively pursued professional development opportunities that serve to enhance her skills.

Karen L. Joos (Wisconsin)

Karen Joos, Monroe County Family Living Agent and Department Head is committed to promoting family strengths and building family/school/community connections through teaching, facilitation, and leadership. A recent project has been facilitating Family Impact Seminars to explore local issues and policy effects it may have for families.

Andrea Nisley (Nebraska)

Andrea Nisley has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to professional development. Building Strong Families is a major emphasis in Nisley's programming. She demonstrates strong educational leadership in 4-H and youth development, food safety and financial management. Recently, grant funding provided educational opportunities for Hispanic youth and families in Dawson County.

Belinda K. Oldham (Kansas)

Living in a rural county allows many opportunities to provide leadership

and educational programs for youth and adult audiences in foods and nutrition and food safety. Extension lets you teach people who want to learn and makes it possible to make a difference in the lives of others.

Marilyn A. Sachs (Ohio)

Marilyn has demonstrated continued commitment to her profession by serving as West District Family & Consumer Sciences Representative and chair of the Program Development committee for Ohio Extension Agents Association, and as a member of the NEAFCS Assessment and Sponsorship Task Force of the Awards and Recognition Committee.

Deborah Diane Sundem (South Dakota)

Deb Sundem has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to child care, parenting and nutrition education during her 21 years as an Extension Educator. Her program leadership and collaboration has fostered healthy family and community relations. Deb continues to enhance her professional development with mentoring and association memberships.

Susan E. Taylor (Illinois)

Working with the Consumer and Family Economics Team, Susan's goal is to reach clientele with innovative financial management programming. She adds a creative touch to engage her limited resource audiences and youth. She has prepared written materials, developed curricu-

lum and used electronic technology to connect clients.

Tranda W. Watts (Kansas)

Tranda Watts, Multi-County Extension Specialist, Foods, Nutrition, Health and Safety, has had the opportunity to develop a new position in Kansas Extension and is currently chairing the Full Circle...An Aging Conference planning committee and teaching children nutrition using Kids a Cookin' resource materials.

EASTERN REGION

Shirley B. Bixby (Pennsylvania)

"Bloom where you are planted" best illustrates Shirley's accomplishments. Over 22 years, she served two state extension systems, earned a graduate degree and progressed from entry level to management positions, and successfully adapted to changing work environments. Her future rests with mastery and application of web-based technology for extension education.

Maria C. Young (New Jersey)

Maria Young believes professional development collaborative partnerships are critical to meeting the needs of our clientele and providing cutting edge programs. Maria continually develops innovative educational programs. Currently her work focuses on family health history and grand parenting. Maria serves as the NEAFCS-NJ Affiliate President and gives leadership to local coalitions.

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CONTINUED EXCELLENCE

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SOUTHERN REGION

Peggy P. Bledsoe (Georgia)

Peggy Bledsoe is committed to improving the lives of families through teaching and leadership. She has been instrumental in developing and teaching food handler education, child care certification and promoting wellness through collaboration. Giving back to the profession and mentoring others are important goals for Peggy.

Jennifer P. Bridge (Kentucky)

As an active member of the Kentucky affiliate, Jennifer Bridge has served in various leadership capacities including president. Her leadership abilities and encouragement of fellow professionals serves as an inspiration and she is a role model for many throughout CES and her local community.

Kimberly Burgess (Alabama)

Kimberly Burgess, Extension Specialist, has continued professional development through participation in District, State and National meetings, staying abreast of current trends and timely topics. Through her leadership, Kimberly shares her expertise with co-workers and clientele. Kimberly's formula for leadership: Trustworthy plus dedication plus professional development equals successful leadership.

Janet Cordell Cluck (Tennessee)

Janet is known for her ability to involve community partnerships in the delivery of leadership, health, nutrition, and financial management education in Dickson County. In 2005, 720 volunteer hours were contributed to a program which gave over 650 teens the opportunity to experience the financial responsibilities of real life.

Donna B. Francis (Arkansas)

Since being awarded DSA, Donna Francis has continued to strive for excellence. Many Drew County clientele have been reached through Reshape Yourself short courses, Food Stamp Nutrition Classes, 4-H and youth development, and workshops for child care providers. She has continued her education through in-service training and professional meetings.

Mary E. Hixson (Kentucky)

Mary Hixson enjoys the opportunity for personal and professional growth through continued education, in-service opportunities, collaborations, association connections and personal connections. By continuing her education and using her creative abilities, she brings innovative programming to local as well as state-wide Extension programming.

Cathy Jean Holmes (Louisiana)

Served 28 years, worked to maintain parish group of family service agencies which meets quarterly; collaborates to implement projects includ-

ing: Health Fairs, Safe Kids Week, Parenting Centers, Anger Management & Co-Parenting workshops, Youth Planning Board. Conducts Child Care Provider Training, Parenting, Stress Management for court-ordered clients and others.

Mary Sue Kennington (Florida)

Mary Sue values the learning opportunities that have been part of her 28-year Extension career. She believes educational improvement is a vital component for building skills and maintaining the creative spark. Mary Sue joined FEAFCS in 1996. She has held several FEAFCS board positions including President in 2003.

Marjorie Moore (Florida)

During her 26 year career with the Extension Service, Marjorie has developed and implemented numerous programs in the areas of Nutrition and Health and Food Safety. She actively takes part in professional development opportunities, including a four-year sabbatical to pursue her Doctoral Degree in Administration and Leadership.

Susan Kay Pearson (Oklahoma)

Susan Pearson, a member of NEAFCS for 14 years serves as OEAFCS VP for awards & recognition, member of the NEAFCS awards & recognitions committee, President of local Resource Conservation & Development volunteer group, participated in legislative forum in DC and has received extensive training in areas of FCS.

Martha Martin Pile (Tennessee)

Community trust and people elevated to key leadership roles are the total learning outcome of 32 creative and energetic years of interactive lessons, exhibits and projects. During her career, passion for professional membership, services (hosting regional, state and national events) and helping others in NEAFCS has been her way.

Patsilu S. Reeves (Mississippi)

This applicant believes strongly in professional development. In the last three years, she has taken more than 200 hours of training and, last year, presented more than 35 hours of in-service training. She is strongly involved in state and national associations. She also presents many professional development programs for non-extension professionals.

Beverly C. Samuel (Virginia)

Beverly Samuel exemplifies excellence. She provides leadership for financial management, youth financial literacy, food safety, and child care programs. She has spearheaded numerous community initiatives. She has also established collaborative networks and secured grants to hire staff. She received a commendation from the Senate of Virginia for programming.

Dolores Marie Sandmann (Texas)

Dolores Sandmann has been an effective educator for over 23 years

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2006 NEAFCS NATIONAL AWARDS

CONTINUED EXCELLENCE

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with Texas Cooperative Extension. She serves as the Nutrition/Health educator, coordinates the Better Living for Texans - Food Stamp Nutrition program in Austin, Texas, and has been a mentor for three new Extension employees.

Susie E. Spurlock (Texas)

Susie believes that professional improvement is the key to meeting the increased demands of an Extension educator. Her programming emphasis is Elderly Independence, Health and Safety related issues. She finds it a continual challenge to discover creative ways to meet the needs of these families.

Brenda Stephenson Van Cleve (Tennessee)

Flexible and diverse are two words describing Brenda's programs. She has worked with different audiences including head-start youth, parents, parents filing for divorce, food stamp recipients, learning-challenged adults and youth, Tai Chi participants, agencies and older adults. As with all FCS agents, change and flexibility are her strengths.

Iris Webb (Louisiana)

Iris Webb has worked for Louisiana State University Agricultural Center 25 years. Her focus on 4H and Family Consumer Science Programs is her passion. Extension allows Iris to help others help themselves. Her leader-

ship, planning, organization, execution and evaluation skills sanction her success.

Pamela Carol York (Kentucky)

Throughout Pam's sixteen year career in Extension, she has embraced professional development opportunities. She believes in order to meet the needs of clientele today she must stay abreast of current issues, be involved in professional development activities, leadership development opportunities and mentor others.

WESTERN REGION

Joanne Kay Austin (Washington)

Joanne Austin, Extension Educator for 22 years, has developed exemplary life skills and food safety programs. On an ongoing basis she utilizes professional development opportunities not only to enhance her skills, but to motivate and inspire her peers, staff, volunteers, and collaborators to more effectively educate others.

Brenda Kay Bishop (New Mexico)

Brenda Bishop has been Quay County's Home Economist for 19 years, during which she has balanced a demanding traditional 4-H, a non-traditional 4-H and an active adult program including administering an After School Program for 11 years. Recently she has focused her efforts in Nutrition and Diabetes.

Jane K. Frobose (Colorado)

Jane K. Frobose, Colorado State University - Denver County Extension, Family and Consumer Sciences, Extension Agent, BS-Secondary Education and MS-Family Related Studies, has taught Family Wellness for more than 30 years. She has developed programs, workshops and curricula in health, financial management and human development for broadly diverse audiences.

Denise Elaine Smith (Wyoming)

Denise Smith's first position was as Home Economist and 4-H agent for Uinta County for four years. For the next 26 years she served Niobrara County as both FCS and 4-H educator. Denise is now also the Nutrition and Food Safety Educator for Converse and Natrona counties.

Julia MK Zee (Hawaii)

Julia enjoys working in a variety of projects with a diverse population. Her current endeavors include the Diabetes Detection and Prevention Project, designed to increase the awareness of diabetes in Hawaii, and NEW: Nutrition Education for Wellness, a statewide program that facilitates consumer food and nutrition education.

Extension Educator of the Year Award

Lynn Fisher Little (Maryland)

Lynn Little conducts a comprehensive FCS program in Washington

County, Maryland. Her educational efforts focus on Family Financial Management, Nutrition, Health and Well-being, and Child Care. Lynn also serves as County Extension Director. She is dedicated to the Maryland Cooperative Extension motto, educating people to help themselves.

Florence Hall Award

Jennifer Thorn Bentlejewski (Maryland)

With diabetes plaguing rural Western Maryland, Dr. Jennifer Bentlejewski, Extension Educator and Registered Dietitian, initiated a comprehensive program that targeted the prevention and treatment of diabetes by improving nutrition knowledge and practices of class participants. Since 2000, she has taught 75 diabetes classes, which reached a total of 2,456 individuals.

Katherine E. Cobb (Arkansas)

When you are a recovering drug addict, eating well is hard. Most recovering addicts struggle with sugar, salt, and caffeine cravings. On their list of priorities, nutrition is far from the top. But during programs conducted at the Mills Center, residents learned healthy habits that they could become addicted to.

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FLORENCE HALL AWARD

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Sharon Hoelscher Day, Elizabeth Schnoll, Evelyn Whitmer, Jeff Lisse, Joyce Alves, Linda Block, Linda Houtkooper, Linda Larkey, Lynne Durrant, Robin Harris, Scot Going, Tim Lohman, Vanessa Stanford and Victoria Steinfeld (Arizona)

"Bone Builders"

Bone Builders is an osteoporosis prevention and social marketing program built on partnerships with Cooperative Extension and more than 100 partners. Bone Builders has trained 300 volunteers and taught more than 7400 women in the past 2 years. Women report knowledge and behavior changes as a result of the classes.

Marsha A. Goetting, Ardis Oelkers, Bobbie Roos, Debbie Donovan, Judy Johnson, Lynn Paul, Michael Vogel, Sandy Bailey, Shelia Friedrich and Tara Andrews (Montana)

The Northeastern Montana Alzheimer's series for caregivers was presented in a five-county area over the course of a week by County Extension Agents using a video and local experts and MSU FCS specialists discussing family interactions and caregiver stress, food and nutrition, financial planning and legal issues, and housing adaptations.

Deborah S. Melvin and Faye Robichaux (Louisiana)

Move Your Feet...taking steps to a healthier Thibodaux, a community walking program co-chaired by the Extension Nutrition Agent and the School Board Child Nutrition Supervisor, received a grant for \$29,800 to conduct a Fitness Carnival, the Extension Portions Healthy Weight Management curriculum, and youth Organ Wise Guys and Take 10!

Adrie J. Roberts (Utah)

Utah has consistently had the highest number of bankruptcies per household in the nation. In response to this, Adrie Roberts coordinated efforts to establish a Utah State University Extension Bankruptcy Prevention Issues Team to determine and facilitate a course of action to assist with financial education throughout Utah.

New Professional Award

Sondra Lynn Ganus Apple (Tennessee)

Sondra Ganus Apple works in Marshall County with 75 percent program responsibility in FCS. In one year alone, Sondra has made approximately 4,155 individual contacts teaching nutrition to youth, as well as providing more than 2,055 adults with necessary nutrition literature brought home by their children or distributed at site locations.

Para-Professional Award

Marilou Vaughn (Wyoming)

A 19 year Cent\$ible Nutrition educator, Marilou makes measurable impacts on individuals and young people. 2004 Outstanding Assistant Projects Manager, team winner for USDA LINC Award for Excellence in Practice and 3rd place NEAFCS Educational Curriculum Package in 2005, Marilou strives to make learning about nutrition fun and meaningful.

Annie's Project is an educational program that provides farm women with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to make informed risk management decisions regarding their farm business operations. This will enable farm women to become better managers, and in turn, increase the viability of their farming operation.

Mary W. Wells Diversity Award

Joanne Marie Roueche (Utah)

"Kaysville Community Apartments - Making A Difference"

Kaysville Community Apartments are low-income, subsidized housing. Half the residents are Hispanic. All families are very low-income. Extension helped develop community gardens & 14 youth & 10 adults received new bikes. Adults used bikes as transportation to get to work. In addition Wonderful Outdoor World Camps were held.

PROGRAM AWARDS

Dean Don Felker Financial Management Award

Laura Royer (Florida)

"Moola Venture Money Camp"

The spending behavior of youth combined with their limited understanding of financial management promotes habits leading to costly mistakes in the future. Moola Venture Money Camp consists of a comprehensive curriculum that focuses on enhancing the budgeting, credit, investing, banking, comparison shopping and job interviewing skills of today's youth.

Program Excellence Through Research Award

Matthew S. Kaplan, Lynn James and Nancy Ellen Kiernan (Pennsylvania)

"Intergenerational Approaches to Nutrition Education"

This research explored how youth, their parents and grandparents discuss issues related to eating health-

Rebecca Jane Travnicek, Karisha Devlin, Mary Sobba, Robert A. Kelly, (Missouri); Ruth Hambleton (Illinois); and Bob Wells and Tim Eggers (Iowa)

"Annie's Project: Financial Education for Farm Women"

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2006 NEAFCS NATIONAL AWARDS

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD

continued from page 23

fully (and unhealthfully). Families reported excessive communication difficulties and requested help in finding ways to work together to attain a healthier family diet. Results informed the development of two new intergenerational family nutrition education demonstration programs.

Martha A. Raidl, Audrey Liddil, Julia Welch, Kris Spain, Marnie Spencer, Marsha Lockard, Rhea Lanting and Shelly Johnson (Idaho)

“The Healthy Diabetes Plate”

One hundred seventeen participants completed the four lesson diabetes education curriculum called The Healthy Diabetes Plate. Between 86-99% of participants were able to correctly plan breakfast, lunch, and dinner meals. Eating habit surveys completed at lessons 1 and 4 showed participants significantly increased their fruit and vegetable consumption.

Environmental Education Award

Bonnie S. Collins, Bruce Mero, Gretchen Mero and Holly Wise (New York)

“Bringing the Community Out: Teaching Environmental Stewardship in an Outdoor Classroom”

Outdoor classrooms, including nature trails and a butterfly house,

were built to provide hands-on experience with nature for families and youth. Field trips for local schools taught youth field observation, data collection and environmental stewardship. Lessons included Kids in the Woods, Good Bugs-Bad Bugs and Meet the Monarchs.

Extension Housing Outreach Award

Becky M. Chenhall, Dr. Jorge H. Atilas, Ginger Bennett, Joyce Habegger and Penny Thompson Keller (Georgia)

“Georgia Radon Education Program, The University of Georgia College of Family and Consumer Sciences”

The University of Georgia College of Family and Consumer Sciences Cooperative Extension Radon Education Program’s purpose is to prevent radon-induced lung cancer by promoting radon awareness through Extension. Radon, a naturally occurring invisible radioactive gas, is the second-leading cause of lung cancer. It kills approximately 21,000 people each year.

Early Childhood Child Care Training Award

Patricia L. Faughn, Brenda Eyler, Debbie McClellen, Judy Taylor, Sheri Merry and Tessa Hobbs-Curley (Illinois)

“Creating Teachable Moments”

Creating Teachable Moments is a

curriculum for use with early child care professionals and teachers. Participants learn the art of creating a teachable moment from everyday behaviors they want to reinforce or diminish. TeRRiFiCC Teachable Moments, a ready-made resource of 75 activities for pre-K-2nd grade, was developed to assist participants.

Food Safety Award

Nancy R. Wiker, Judy Richardson, Marcia Weber, Sandra Parker Hall and Stacey Hutchison Miscisin (Pennsylvania)

"Keep It Cool! Refrigerator Thermometer Program"
Family Living Educators worked as a team to develop a refrigerator thermometer exhibit, adapt a skit and follow-up assessment that helped consumers increase their awareness to monitor temperatures to insure food is out of the temperature danger zone. A majority of the consumers increased their likelihood to check refrigerator temperatures.

4-H Excellence in Afterschool Programming Award

Lois Ann Clark, Cheryl Bolinger-McKirnan, Elizabeth M. Miller, Lori Now and Ruth Anne Foote (Ohio)

"Building Basic Living Skills in Youth...Kid's Chef School"
The Kid's Chef School met a need for children living in latchkey situations.

By necessity, these children need basic knowledge and skills in food preparation, sanitation, kitchen safety, and nutrition. Kid's Chef School addresses these needs by giving children practice as they learn basic life skills through experiential learning.

Denyse Altman Variano, Bobbi Hull, Brenda Reynolds, Carol Chichester, Dana R. Variano and Jerome Christie (New York)

"Kinship Family Portraits Project"
Through a series of afterschool explorations in writing, art, drama, and photography, 4-H RAPP youth worked individually and cooperatively to explore, share and record their unique family histories through the development of their own family portrait scrapbooks, presented at the Orange County Fair. A video documents this exciting project model.

Glenda Lynne Wentworth (Colorado)

"Babysitter Basics Training Program"
The Babysitter Basics Training Program is a 7.5-hour training session designed for youth in fifth through seventh grades to develop care giving knowledge and skills while preparing them for the challenges of babysitting. It provides an opportunity to learn about child development, first aid and safety in a fun atmosphere.

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Healthy Lifestyles Education Grant

Luann K. Boyer (Colorado)

"Diabetes Education Menu Insert"

A Diabetes Education Menu Insert will be developed to use at locally-owned, full-service restaurants in Morgan County during National Nutrition Month. The insert will educate diners on why carbohydrates are needed, appropriate serving sizes and selecting menu items that fit the diabetes guidelines for carbohydrates.

COMMUNICATION AWARDS

Newsletters

**Jean Ann Anliker, Ana Rona,
Cindy Hubbard and Lynne
Thompson—1st Place**

(Massachusetts)

"Pumpkin Post & Banana Beat Newsletters"

The Pumpkin Post (Spanish version: El Recaito) is a fun, educational newsletter series developed by the UMass Extension Family Nutrition Program for low-income parents and caregivers of preschool children. Each issue contains a special insert called the Banana Beat (Spanish version: Sabrosito!) designed for the children themselves.

**Shirley B. Bixby, Darlene K. Jury
and Marilyn A. Corbin—2nd Place**
(Pennsylvania)

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"Linking Research to Family and Youth Programs"

This electronic newsletter brings the research of Penn State faculty to Extension professionals. As knowledge is meaningless unless shared, this newsletter provides an accessible conduit for field-based educators to strengthen Extension's mission of translating research to practical applications for the citizens they serve.

**Sheila Diane Ryan, Ann E. Diede,
Betty Meloy, Kay Hendrickson,
Lizann Powers-Hammond and
Margaret Viebrock—3rd Place**
(Washington)

"Para Su Familia"

Para Su Familia is an English/Spanish newsletter, written, edited and marketed by a team of Washington Extension Educators. Articles focus on parenting, child development, communications, health, family finance, housing, nutrition and food safety. Sixty-five percent of readers have made a positive behavior change as a result of reading the newsletter.

Radio

Robin Lynn Eubank—1st Place
(Kansas)

"Community Meltdown Radio Promotion"

The local AM radio station welcomes Seward County K-State Extension to be regular guests on the morning talk show Live From Broadcast Square. This included promotion of Community Meltdown. Also, they produced and aired a Public Service

Announcement written to promote Community Meltdown.

Janice Elizabeth Stoudnour—2nd Place (Pennsylvania)

"Families Communicating Love"

Families that care about one another communicate their love every day. Parents act as role models for their children as they demonstrate the appropriate use of communication skills. Communicating positive relationship building behaviors on a daily basis improves the quality and commitment within the family relationship for children and parents.

Cheryl Ann Maxwell—3rd Place (Arkansas)

"Nutrition Tip of the Day"

March is designated as National Nutrition Month by the American Dietetic Association. To increase awareness of healthy eating practices, 30 second nutrition tips were developed and recorded by Cheryl Maxwell, CEA - FCS for each week-day during March. The 24 PSAs were aired by KBOK Radio in Malvern, Arkansas.

Television

Joan E. LeFebvre—1st Place (Wisconsin)

"Making Your Holidays Affordable"

"Making Your Holidays Affordable" was the November 28, 2005, topic for the WJFW-TV12 Money Watch news interview. The University of Wisconsin-Extension, Cooperative Extension Family Living Agent, Joan

LeFebvre, presented the idea of a holiday budget with options for creating an affordable holiday.

Barbara Dawn Petty—2nd Place (Idaho)

"Married and Loving It!"

The Married and Loving It! promotional video provides an overview of the program. Testimonials from class participants validate the impact participating in the program has made on their marriages. Results of a telephone survey conducted by the University of Idaho indicate the effectiveness by reporting the increase in marital satisfaction.

Madeleine Greene, Stephen Hannan and Susan Ellerbee—3rd Place (Maryland)

"Fine Print"

This program reaches 65,000 subscriber households 28 times a month. Hot button consumer topics are monthly features along with product recalls. Experts are interviewed in a conversational format. Federal, state and local Government agencies (FTC, CDC, SEC, USDA, MD Attorney General, Health Dept.) are showcased through information sharing.

Written News

Mary L. Rhyne—1st Place (Oklahoma)

"Beef Cooking School for Youth"

A Beef Cooking School involving 52 4-Her's from three counties provided a day of education, nutrition, skill-

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2006 NEAFCS NATIONAL AWARDS

WRITTEN NEWS

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building, and fun. Participants prepared and tasted seven beef recipes, and participated in educational presentations and games learning about the beef industry, food safety and preparation, food budgeting, and nutrition.

Donna R. Martinson—2nd Place (Kansas)

“Grandma’s Life Provides Lessons for Today” compares the diet and lifestyle of the author’s grandmother to current health recommendations, including the U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Website addresses for additional information were included. Readers were reminded it is never too late to begin a healthier lifestyle.

Patricia Jean Aaron—3rd Place (New Mexico)

“Add Some Color to Your Diet”

Selecting child care is one of the “New Mexico’s Own,” a bimonthly column written by Patricia since 1994 and published in the Food Section of the Albuquerque Journal, focuses on nutrition information and food preparation. This article continues her exploration into the science link in the food chain with a look at phytochemicals.

Educational Technology

Colleen Hondl Gengler, Jodi Dworkin and Kathleen A. Olson—1st Place (Minnesota)

“Take and Teach Lessons for a Parent or Parents & Teens Together Group”

Take and Teach Lessons on bullying, peer pressure and teen decision making were developed for parent only or parent-teen groups. All materials needed are on a single topic CD: facilitator guide, research background, handouts, activities, resource list, PowerPoint, plus how to plan for a successful program.

Alice Catherine Henneman and Beverly A. Benes—2nd Place (Nebraska)

“Spending Your Calorie Salary: Tips for Using MyPyramid”

This PowerPoint was developed to teach how to use the new MyPyramid food guidance system. It was made available to other educators via the Internet and was downloaded by 4,087 educators during its first six months on the web. Feedback was positive.

Dolores Marie Sandmann—3rd Place (Texas)

“No Bones About It—Ethics in the Workplace”

“No Bones About It—Ethics in the Workplace” was developed as a creative approach to teaching an important issue to new Extension employees in Texas. Employees who place a high priority on ethical behavior benefit in increased credibility, greater job efficiency, increased clientele loyalty, and greater personal satisfaction.

Educational Curriculum Package

Marilyn S. Fox, Jeff Shelton and Susan Brown—1st Place (Nebraska)

“Methamphetamine - One of Rural Nebraska’s Greatest Challenges”

One of rural America’s greatest challenges is substance abuse and one of those substances is methamphetamine. Nebraska citizens have become more aware of the magnitude of the problem, how it impacts families, public health, safety, environment, and rural economic development. Strategies have been shared to help combat the growing problem.

Dolores Marie Sandmann, Andrew Crocker, Sharon Robinson and Terin Holbrook—2nd Place (Texas)

“EAT SMART—Chronic Disease Prevention”

Eating a healthy diet and staying active while growing older is a necessity to maintaining wellness and independence. EAT SMART was developed to provide seniors with information on nutrition, food safety, increasing physical activity, and becoming proactive in preventive health care in order to prevent chronic diseases.

Rhea K. Lanting and Martha Raidl—3rd Place (Idaho)

“Osteoporosis, Prevention and Treatment: Your Bones, Your Body”

This four-lesson curriculum was developed for adults. Participants learn a practical approach for pre-

venting and treating osteoporosis through healthy meal planning and increased physical activity. Program outcomes have shown an increase in knowledge, calcium consumption and physical activity.

Educational Publications

Cathy Faulcon Bowen and Peter Kauffman—1st Place (Pennsylvania)

“Credit Cards and College: Know the Facts”

This brochure alerts college students to key facts about using credit cards. It is available in all Penn State Bookstores (23) across the Commonwealth. In addition, it was distributed to the University Park campus freshmen during Fall 2005 orientation and is used in other credit education sessions for adults.

Marilyn S. Fox, Jeff Shelton and Susan Brown—2nd Place (Nebraska)

“Methamphetamine - One of Rural Nebraska’s Greatest Challenges”

One of rural America’s greatest challenges is substance abuse and one of those substances is methamphetamine. Nebraska citizens have become more aware of the magnitude of the problem, how it impacts families, public health, safety, environment, and rural economic development. Strategies have been shared to help combat the growing problem.

2006 NEAFCS NATIONAL AWARDS

EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

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Annette Campbell, Lois E. Smith and Milly Kaiser—3rd Place (Illinois)

“Identity Theft Bulletin”

Identity theft is the fastest-growing crime of the century, and University of Illinois Extension has worked to educate local citizens about this growing problem. The Report to Legislators bulletin was designed to inform state and federal legislators of U of I Extension’s efforts in addressing this issue.

Internet Education Technology

Kathryn L. Sweedler, Angela C. Lyons, Charlotte Crawford, Ellen I. Burton, Jennifer Hunt, Karen M. Chan, Mary Ann Fugate, Patricia Hildebrand and Paul E. McNamara—1st Place (Illinois)

“Plan Well, Retire Well: Your How-to Guide Website”

The Plan Well, Retire Well: Your how-to guide website (www.RetireWell.uiuc.edu) engages users with calculators and worksheets that encourage young adults to input financial information, evaluate their current financial position, and set future goals. The website has over one-third of a million hits and over 3100 people have registered as users.

Sharon Hoelscher Day and Andrew Felicetti—2nd Place (Arizona)

“Bone Builders Social Marketing Website”

The Bone Builders website is critical to the social marketing of the statewide osteoporosis prevention program targeting women of all ages. Health websites, like Arizona Orthopedic Surgeons Association and Center for Disease Control link to bonebuilder.org for information. More than 12,000 people with 430,000 hits visit the site annually.

Karen M. Blass—3rd Place (New Hampshire)

“Project C.A.S.H. (Creating a Savings Habit)”

The Project C.A.S.H. (Creating a Savings Habit) website (www.project-cash.unh.edu) is part of an overall initiative at the University of New Hampshire to reach college students and their parents with information on basic money management. The website includes downloadable worksheets, PowerPoint presentations, and links to a variety of resources.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARDS

Marketing Package Award

Anita McKinney (Florida)

“First Coast Get Checking Marketing Package”

The First Coast Get Checking program was launched in 2005. The marketing program includes two brochures, program flyers, a table

tent, web page, gift certificate, news releases, radio and TV spot outlines, marketing ideas for participating financial institutions, and an evaluation summary/flyer which describes the first year results.

Kathryn L. Sweedler, Jennifer Hunt, Karen M. Chan, Mary Ann Fugate, Pat Hildebrand and Paul E. McNamara (Illinois)

"Marketing the Plan Well, Retire Well: Your How-To Guide Website"

Marketing the Plan Well, Retire Well: Your How-To Guide website (www.RetireWell.uiuc.edu) included development of brochures, book-marks, posters, displays, media releases, state-wide campaigns for extension staff, and presentations at national conferences to increase awareness. Through marketing efforts, the website has over one-third million hits and over 3,100 registered users.

Community Partnership Award

Marilyn Cross Bischoff, Carol Hampton, Beverly Healy, Audrey Liddil, Marsha Lockard, Barbara Petty, Kathee Tiffit and Sharlene Woffinden (Idaho); Vicki Hayman, Patti Griffith, Phyllis Lewis, Stella McKinstry, Chris Pasley, Denise Smith, Dr. Ruth Wilson and Carla Mahar (Wyoming); Gail Brand, Susan Brown, Maureen Burson, Ann Fenton, Nancy Frecks, Jeanette Friesen, Teri Gemar, Jessye Goertz, Alice Henneman, Mary Ann Holland, Eileen Krumbach,

Kathleen Lodl, Mary Loftis, Leanne Manning, Jeanne Murray, Mary Nelson, Andrea Nisley, Lynne Osborn, Sue Pearman, Deanna Peterson, Carol Plate, Sandy Preston, Sarah Purcell, Debra Schroeder, Cindy Strasheim, Dianne Swanson, Cheryl Tickner, Rebecca Versch, Ruth Vonderohe and Mary Kay Warner (Nebraska); Sandra Aamlid, Donna Bittiker, Amanda Diede, Ellyn Eddy, Sharon Guthmiller, Sally Park Hageman, Carolyn Hendricks, Corrine Huber, Cheryl Jacobs, Bobbi Larsen, Tracey Lehrke, Becky Leonard, Ingrid Lindberg, Julie McKay, Lavonne Meyer, Sandra Namken, Nancy Pauly, Karen Petrik, Debra Rombough, Ruth Schmeichel, Karen Slunecka, Linda I. Smith, Deb Sundem, Laurie Tangen, Karla Trautman, Ann Votaw, Marjorie Zastrow, Elizabeth Gorham (South Dakota); and Caroline E. Crocoll and Anna Mae Kobbe (USDA)

"Medicare Drug Card Community Partnership"

Extension educators in five states partnered with more than 283 civic groups and community agencies to educate and enroll Medicare beneficiaries in the first-ever Medicare Prescription Drug Cards. Nearly 47,000 people were enrolled in Medicare Drug Card programs. Enrollees could afford to purchase medications and saved nearly \$1,600,000.

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CENTRAL REGION FINALISTS



Fellowships

GRACE FRYSSINGER

FELLOWSHIP

Susan Annette Hansen (Nebraska)

Susan Hansen will be traveling to Peru to team teach with Good Shepherd Volunteers. They will be teaching nutrition, food preparation skills and food safety to youth and young adults in Lima. This will also provide an opportunity for Susan to learn Spanish and learn about the culture.

Professional Development Awards

EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Margaret E. VanGinkel (Iowa)

Margaret VanGinkel has been able to improve the quality of life for Iowa families through basic financial literacy education and help them access appropriate resources through the five family hotlines she manages. Building partnerships has been a strong key to reaching diverse populations with research-based financial information and other needs.

FLORENCE HALL AWARD

Robin Lynn Eubank, Andrea Wood, Belinda Oldham, Carol

Ann Crouch, Christine McPheter, Crystal Bashford, Doris Welch, Ethel Schneweis, Janice St. Clair, Jennifer Tiemeyer, Linda Walter, Mary Sullivan, Nancy Honig, Pamela Muntz and Rebecca Wallace (Kansas)

Collaborating to form Southwest Kansas on the Move, 15 FCS agents strove to coordinate programming to reduce the prevalence of obesity by offering Walk Kansas, Walk Kansas for Kids, Strong Women and Community Meltdown. These programs reached 6,801 in 2005. One highlight was creating a TV PSA for Walk Kansas.

Rebecca Ann Hagen Jokela, Janene H. Gilman, Lori Hendrickson and Sara Croymans (Minnesota)

University of Minnesota Extension Service 2005 teacher training, Financial Literacy: What's New in Credit and Debt, for teachers and credit union professionals utilizing the NEFE (National Endowment for Financial Education) High School Financial Planning curriculum. The Youth and Money team developed CD supplemented the curriculum credit and budgeting units.

Glenda I. Kinder, Beverly Pfeiffer, Karen From, Linda Rellergert, Lynda Johnson, Melissa Bess,

**Sarah Janicek, Stephen Ball,
Susan Mills-Gray and Vera Nichols
(Missouri)**

Stay Strong Stay Healthy, an 8 week strength training program taught by University of Missouri Extension Educators, including Lynda Johnson, Glenda Kinder and Susan Mills-Gray. 455 Missouri residents have participated in 28 Stay Strong series since January 2005, providing access to evidence-based strength training of safe, structured, and effective exercises.

**Eileen M. Krumbach, Andrea
Nisley, Carla Mahar, Deanna Lee
Peterson, Dianne Swanson, Dr.
John DeFrain, Leanne M.
Manning, Lee Sherry, Mary Ann
Holland, Ruth Vonderohe, Sandra
D. Preston and Susan Brown
(Nebraska)**

Guardianship training is a court-mandated educational program for newly appointed guardians. The program focuses on understanding what a guardian is, responsibilities to the court and ward, implementing good decision making and understanding financial responsibilities. This is a partnership between the Nebraska Supreme Court, Nebraska Bar Association and UNL Extension.

Donna R. Martinson (Kansas)

Losing one's ability to reason and remember is a concern of many older adults, their friends, and children. Brain Blitz helps adults of all ages maximize their brain power. Recognizing differences between normal and more serious memory

difficulties and knowing ways to keep one's brain sharp is reassuring and empowering.

NEW PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Joyce Evelyn Lash (Iowa)

Joyce's education goals have been to improve financial skills of young people by promoting the High School Financial Education Program. She facilitates consumer decision making by connecting clients with tools for Medicare Drug coverage selection and presenting programs such as Money Talk and Home Ownership, to help women and minorities.

Program Awards

**DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT AWARD**

**Sandra D. Preston, Carla Mahar
and Myrna DuBois (Nebraska)**

"Real World - Money"

This interactive financial program is designed to help youth become better prepared to make financial decisions as young adults. Based on a couple of other Money Simulations, this simulation went a step further to make the simulation more visual for the young people and allow them to make more choices.

**Rebecca Jane Travnichek, Karisha
Devlin, Mary Sobba, Robert A.
Kelly, (Missouri); Ruth**

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

Hambleton (Illinois); and Bob Wells and Tim Eggers (Iowa)

“Annie’s Project: Financial Education for Farm Women”

Annie’s Project is an educational program that provides farm women with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to make informed risk management decisions regarding their farm business operations. This will enable farm women to become better managers, and in turn, increase the viability of their farming operation.

MARY W. WELLS DIVERSITY AWARD

Mary Joyce Sullivan (Kansas)

“Migrant Education”

The Migrant Education program allowed me to partner with the home visit teachers and train them to teach the preschooler and the parent nutrition in their native language. The Book in a Bag Program met the literacy requirement and provides nutrition lessons and taste testing to go with the lesson.

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD

Jennifer Bernadette Caravella (Wisconsin)

“Needs Assessment Method”

Key informant interviews, along with existing data were used by the Waushara County Family Living Agent to conduct a situational analysis of needs and issues facing families and children in a rural, Wisconsin

county. This research was shared with others who work with families and children.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD CARE TRAINING AWARD

Patricia L. Faughn, Brenda Eycler, Debbie McClellen, Judy Taylor, Sheri Merry and Tessa Hobbs-Curley (Illinois)

“Creating Teachable Moments”

Creating Teachable Moments is a curriculum for use with early child care professionals and teachers. Participants learn the art of creating a teachable moment from everyday behaviors they want to reinforce or diminish. TeRRiFiCC Teachable Moments, a ready-made resource of 75 activities for pre-K-2nd grade, was developed to assist participants.

FOOD SAFETY AWARD

Patricia S. Steiner and Barbara Anderson (Iowa)

“Food Safety Training Designed for Food Industry”

Iowa State University Extension nutrition field specialists and campus staff assisted a state-of-the-art turkey processing facility to develop a pre-employment food safety course. Extension staff trained corporation staff in food safety and teaching techniques. Together they have now certified more than 2200 employees and are writing more in-depth materials.

**4-H EXCELLENCE IN
AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING
AWARD**

Lois Ann Clark, Cheryl Bolinger-McKirnan, Elizabeth M. Miller, Lori Now and Ruth Anne Foote (Ohio)

"Building Basic Living Skills in Youth...Kid's Chef School"

The Kid's Chef School met a need for children living in latchkey situations. By necessity, these children need basic knowledge and skills in food preparation, sanitation, kitchen safety, and nutrition. Kid's Chef School addresses these needs by giving children practice as they learn basic life skills through experiential learning.

Sara Renee Croymans, Becky Hagen Jokela, Brad Rugg, Carrie Ann Olson, David Becker, Jan Gilman, Kimberly Asche, Kristi Stolen, Laura Whisney, Lisa Kruselbrink, Lori Hendrickson, Rebecca Price and Todd Mehrkens (Minnesota)

"4-H Consumer Decision Making"

Using an experiential learning model, 4-H Consumer Decision Making teaches youth to make wise decisions. With guidance from caring adults and team work with peers, youth participate in a judging contest to rank consumer items based on criteria and practice learned skills in an interactive service learning educational sessions.

**HEALTHY LIFESTYLES
EDUCATION GRANT**

Robin Lynn Eubank (Kansas)

"Culturally Translating Community Meltdown"

Community Meltdown, an 8 week weight loss challenge, which educates about nutrition and physical activity, has proven successful with the general population of southwest Kansas. This award will assist in the developing of these materials as culturally relevant and in Spanish to reach the Hispanic population.

Communication Awards

NEWSLETTERS

Rebecca Jane Travnichek, David M. Davis, Diane Kerns, Don L. Miller, Janet Hackert Kiralfy and Karen From—1st Place (Missouri)

"Reaching Families with Northwest Missouri Extension News You Can Use"

"Northwest Missouri Extension News You Can Use" provides timely, research-based information in areas of human environmental sciences (HES), agriculture, communities, and 4-H each month. Coordination for HES topics is on a rotating basis, with one central editor. The newsletter is mailed to 3,200 households in 13 northwest Missouri counties.

Robin Lynn Eubank—2nd Place (Kansas)

"Community Meltdown Newsletters"

Developed as an educational and

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

COMMUNICATION AWARDS

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motivational complement to sessions held for Community Meltdown, this newsletter focused on nutrition and physical activity to support the team weight loss challenge. Feature stories address current issues, and reoccurring sections build on previous weeks, but carry stand-alone messages as well.

Cynthia Rae Shuster and Kimberly Barnhart—3rd Place (Ohio)

“Family Tapestries...Strengthening Family Bonds”

This Perry County Family & Consumer Sciences Newsletter covers a broad range of program areas that reflect the varied interest of its rural county residents. It includes traditional subject matter areas while stretching readers' minds to reach beyond the traditional subject matter.

RADIO

Robin Lynn Eubank—1st Place (Kansas)

“Community Meltdown Radio Promotion”

The local AM radio station welcomes Seward County K-State Extension to be regular guests on the morning talk show Live From Broadcast Square. This included promotion of Community Meltdown. Also, they produced and aired a Public Service Announcement written to promote Community Meltdown.

Cheryle Jones Syracuse—2nd Place (Ohio)

“Too Late for Thanksgiving”

This unrehearsed live radio interview with this Extension Educator was aired the day before Thanksgiving. Emphasis was placed on food safety including correct defrosting, using a food thermometer, avian flu, safe storage of leftovers and how to reach the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline for assistance.

TELEVISION

Joan E. LeFebvre—1st Place (Wisconsin)

““Making Your Holidays Affordable”

“Making Your Holidays Affordable” was the November 28, 2005, topic for the WJFW-TV12 Money Watch news interview. The University of Wisconsin-Extension, Cooperative Extension Family Living Agent, Joan LeFebvre, presented the idea of a holiday budget with options for creating an affordable holiday.

Jenny Marie Wehmeier, Daniel McCrea and Kathleen Eisenmann—2nd Place (Wisconsin)

United Way approached Family Living Programs of Jefferson and Walworth counties to provide a television program on family demographics and priority issues. The purpose was to increase awareness and understanding of how county families are organized, what priority needs are, and how UW-Extension meets needs with education and applied research.

WRITTEN NEWS

**Donna R. Martinson—1st Place
(Kansas)**

“Grandma’s Life Provides Lessons for Today” compares the diet and lifestyle of the author’s grandmother to current health recommendations, including the U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Website addresses for additional information were included. Readers were reminded it is never too late to begin a healthier lifestyle.

**Shirley Jean Anderson-Porisch—
2nd Place (Minnesota)**

“Should I Handle My Debt with Another Loan?”

People are looking for ways to deal with high consumer debt. Predatory lenders are looking for people who are looking for ways to deal with high consumer debt. This news release sought to strengthen people’s awareness of how predatory lenders only increase the negative challenges of dealing with consumer debt.

**Cheryle Jones Syracuse—3rd
Place (Ohio)**

“Living Today Personal Column”

This news column promotes an upcoming nutrition program on incorporating chocolate into a healthy lifestyle. This personal column appears weekly in local newspapers and shares research-based information. This specific column discusses the nutritional value of chocolate for those unable to attend the classes and how to get more information.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

**Colleen Hondl Gengler, Jodi
Dworkin and Kathleen A. Olson—
1st Place (Minnesota)**

“Take and Teach Lessons for a Parent or Parents & Teens Together Group”

Take and Teach Lessons on bullying, peer pressure and teen decision making were developed for parent only or parent-teen groups. All materials needed are on a single topic CD: facilitator guide, research background, handouts, activities, resource list, PowerPoint, plus how to plan for a successful program.

**Marilyn S. Fox and Susan
Brown—2nd Place (Nebraska)**

“Methamphetamine - One of Rural Nebraska’s Greatest Challenges”

One of rural America’s greatest challenges is substance abuse and one of those substances is methamphetamine. Nebraska citizens have become more aware of the magnitude of the problem, how it impacts families, public health, safety, environment, and rural economic development. Strategies have been shared to help combat the growing problem.

**Alice Catherine Henneman and
Beverly A. Benes—3rd Place
(Nebraska)**

“Spending Your Calorie Salary: Tips for Using MyPyramid”

This PowerPoint was developed to teach how to use the new MyPyramid food guidance system. It was made

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

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available to other educators via the Internet and was downloaded by 4,087 educators during its first six months on the web. Feedback was positive.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM

PACKAGE

Marilyn S. Fox, Jeff Shelton and Susan Brown—1st Place (Nebraska)

“Methamphetamine - One of Rural Nebraska’s Greatest Challenges”

One of rural America’s greatest challenges is substance abuse and one of those substances is methamphetamine. Nebraska citizens have become more aware of the magnitude of the problem, how it impacts families, public health, safety, environment, and rural economic development. Strategies have been shared to help combat the growing problem.

Dianne Gravesen Weber and Karen Krause Hintz—2nd Place (Wisconsin)

“The Teen Brain: A Work in Progress”

This presentation shares brain development research that helps parents and educators understand the behavior of teenagers. Teens aren’t moody, disorganized, and making risky choices on purpose – there is a scientific explanation, and there are ways that adults can make a positive difference. Includes handouts, resource list, and evaluation tool.

Janene Hodges Gilman, Becky Hagen Jokela, Cindy Peterson, Glenice Johnson, Lori Hendrickson, Patrica Olson, Phyllis Onstad, Rosi Heins, Sara Croymans, Sharon Danes and Shirley Anderson-Porisch—3rd Place (Minnesota)

“Are You Infected By Affluenza?”

“Are You Infected By Affluenza?” is a Learning Circle Lesson taught to leaders using the train-the-trainer model. Trained leaders will teach participants how affluenza has been the term coined to describe the epidemic of stress, overwork, shopping and debt caused by the continued pursuit of the “American Dream”.

EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Marilyn S. Fox, Jeff Shelton and Susan Brown—1st Place (Nebraska)

“Methamphetamine - One of Rural Nebraska’s Greatest Challenges”

One of rural America’s greatest challenges is substance abuse and one of those substances is methamphetamine. Nebraska citizens have become more aware of the magnitude of the problem, how it impacts families, public health, safety, environment, and rural economic development. Strategies have been shared to help combat the growing problem.

Annette Campbell, Lois E. Smith and Milly Kaiser—2nd Place (Illinois)

“Identity Theft Bulletin”

Identity theft is the fastest-growing crime of the century, and University of Illinois Extension has worked to

educate local citizens about this growing problem. The Report to Legislators bulletin was designed to inform state and federal legislators of U of I Extension's efforts in addressing this issue.

**INTERNET EDUCATION
TECHNOLOGY**

Kathryn L. Sweedler, Angela C. Lyons, Charlotte Crawford, Ellen I. Burton, Jennifer Hunt, Karen M. Chan, Mary Ann Fugate, Patricia Hildebrand and Paul E. McNamara—1st Place (Illinois)

“Plan Well, Retire Well: Your How-to Guide Website”

The Plan Well, Retire Well: Your how-to guide website (www.RetireWell.uiuc.edu) engages users with calculators and worksheets that encourage young adults to input financial information, evaluate their current financial position, and set future goals. The website has over one-third of a million hits and over 3100 people have registered as users.

Public Relations Awards

MARKETING PACKAGE AWARD

Lori Ann Hendrickson, Janene Hodges Gilman, Rebecca Hagen Jokela and Sara Croymans (Minnesota)

“Marketing Teacher Training in Financial Literacy”

Financial Literacy: What's New In Credit & Debt? is a teacher training program and CD supplement to accompany the High School Financial Planning Program in Minnesota. This submission details the marketing approaches taken

by the team of educators and collaborating organizations to promote the teacher training and CD.

Kathryn L. Sweedler, Jennifer Hunt, Karen M. Chan, Mary Ann Fugate, Pat Hildebrand and Paul E. McNamara (Illinois)

“Marketing the Plan Well, Retire Well: Your How-To Guide Website”

Marketing the Plan Well, Retire Well: Your How-To Guide website (www.RetireWell.uiuc.edu) included development of brochures, bookmarks, posters, displays, media releases, state-wide campaigns for extension staff, and presentations at national conferences to increase awareness. Through marketing efforts, the website has over one-third million hits and over 3,100 registered users.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD

Eileen M. Krumbach, Andrea Nisley, Carla Mahar, Deanna Lee Peterson, Dianne Swanson, Dr. John DeFrain, Leanne M. Manning, Lee Sherry, Mary Ann Holland, Rurh Vonderohe, Sandra D. Preston and Susan Brown (Nebraska)

“Guardianship Training”

Guardianship Training is a court-mandated educational program for newly appointed guardians. The program focuses on understanding what a Guardian is, responsibilities to the court and Ward, implementing good decision making and understanding financial responsibilities. This is a partnership between the Nebraska Supreme Court, Nebraska Bar Association and UNL Extension.

EASTERN REGION FINALISTS



Fellowships

GREENWOOD FELLOWSHIP

Sharon Louise McDonald (Pennsylvania)

Advances in web-based technology for distance education must be implemented and embraced by Extension to continue to fulfill its mission. Her master's research paper will examine current use of technological tools in Extension program delivery, knowledge, beliefs and attitudes of Extension Educators about these tools and implementation in program delivery.

GRACE FRYINGER FELLOWSHIP

Cassandra Sue Corridon (Maryland)

The MCE mentoring plan was developed to partner new employees with tenured, experienced faculty. The Grace Frysinger Grant will provide Corridon, the first Mentoring Coordinator, with the opportunity to visit states with established mentoring programs and use that experience to develop, improve and expand the fledgling MCE Mentoring Program.

Professional Development Awards

EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Lynn Fisher Little (Maryland)

Lynn Little conducts a comprehensive FCS program in Washington County, Maryland. Her educational efforts focus on Family Financial Management, Nutrition, Health and Well-being, and Child Care. Lynn also serves as County Extension Director. She is dedicated to the Maryland Cooperative Extension motto, educating people to help themselves.

FLORENCE HALL AWARD

Jennifer Thorn Bentlejewski (Maryland)

With diabetes plaguing rural Western Maryland, Dr. Jennifer Bentlejewski, Extension Educator and Registered Dietitian, initiated a comprehensive program that targeted the prevention and treatment of diabetes by improving nutrition knowledge and practices of class participants. Since 2000, she has taught 75 diabetes classes, which reached a total of 2,456 individuals.

Karen M. Blass (New Hampshire)

We are in an age of increasing media saturation. Based on accumulating research, the American Academy of Pediatrics has identified media as a health risk to our children and youth. This program provides parents with an overview of the health risks of media as well as suggestions to decrease risks.

Barbara Mary O'Neill and Patricia Q. Brennan (New Jersey)

The Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension Money Talk program addresses the unique financial planning needs of women. It has two components: a 192-page guidebook and a series of five 2.5 hour classes. It has been adopted for use by Extension agents across the U.S.

PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Jolynn Stevens (Maine)

Using charts and positive reinforcement, Jolynn promotes behavior change in elementary school-aged children and their teachers and helps the school win a state award. By overcoming obstacles of New England winters, home-bound seniors are not denied nutrition/cooking classes. Collaboration with community agencies creates innovative and successful programming.

Program Awards

DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AWARD

Cathy Faulcon Bowen, Denise Continenza, Janice Stoudnour, Marilyn Furry, Rama Radhakrishna and Robert Thee (Pennsylvania)

"Pennsylvania Saves"

Some of the hardest American workers are not taught how to make their earnings work hard for them. Results from a four-week project yielded sta-

tistically significant differences between treatment and control groups' financial knowledge scores and positive behaviors. Delayed post test results indicated that the treatment group sustained positive practices.

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD

Matthew S. Kaplan, Lynn James and Nancy Ellen Kiernan (Pennsylvania)

"Intergenerational Approaches to Nutrition Education"

This research explored how youth, their parents and grandparents discuss issues related to eating healthfully (and unhealthfully). Families reported excessive communication difficulties and requested help in finding ways to work together to attain a healthier family diet. Results informed the development of two new intergenerational family nutrition education demonstration programs.

Barbara Mary O'Neill (New Jersey) and Jing Xiao (Arizona)

"Identity Theft Risk Assessment Quiz"

An online Identity Theft Risk Assessment Quiz was developed by Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension to provide feedback to users about personal identity theft risk exposures and to collect data for research about identity theft risks. It is available at www.rce.rutgers.edu/money/identitytheft/default.asp.

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

PROGRAM AWARDS

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ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

AWARD

**Bonnie S. Collins, Bruce Mero,
Gretchen Mero and Holly Wise
(New York)**

“Bringing the Community Out: Teaching Environmental Stewardship in an Outdoor Classroom”

Outdoor classrooms, including nature trails and a butterfly house, were built to provide hands-on experience with nature for families and youth. Field trips for local schools taught youth field observation, data collection and environmental stewardship. Lessons included Kids in the Woods, Good Bugs-Bad Bugs and Meet the Monarchs.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD

CARE TRAINING AWARD

Jean F. Austin (Maryland)

“Children and Dangerous Plants”

Children and Dangerous Plants—Health and safety risks associated with indoor and outdoor plants are discussed. Child care providers are challenged to think about plants in new ways. Basic botany and toxicology concepts are introduced in this continuing education class for child care providers.

FOOD SAFETY AWARD

**Nancy R. Wiker, Judy Richardson,
Marcia Weber, Sandra Parker Hall**

**and Stacey Hutchison Miscisin
(Pennsylvania)**

“Keep It Cool! Refrigerator Thermometer Program”

Family Living Educators worked as a team to develop a refrigerator thermometer exhibit, adapt a skit and follow-up assessment that helped consumers increase their awareness to monitor temperatures to insure food is out of the temperature danger zone. A majority of the consumers increased their likelihood to check refrigerator temperatures.

4-H EXCELLENCE IN

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING

AWARD

**Denyse Altman Variano, Bobbi
Hull, Brenda Reynolds, Carol
Chichester, Dana R. Variano and
Jerome Christie (New York)**

“Kinship Family Portraits Project”

Through a series of afterschool explorations in writing, art, drama, and photography, 4-H RAPP youth worked individually and cooperatively to explore, share and record their unique family histories through the development of their own family portrait scrapbooks, presented at the Orange County Fair. A video documents this exciting project model.

Communication Awards

NEWSLETTERS

**Jean Ann Anliker, Ana Rona,
Cindy Hubbard and Lynne**

**Thompson—1st Place
(Massachusetts)**

"Pumpkin Post & Banana Beat Newsletters"

The Pumpkin Post (Spanish version: El Recaito) is a fun, educational newsletter series developed by the UMass Extension Family Nutrition Program for low-income parents and caregivers of preschool children. Each issue contains a special insert called the Banana Beat (Spanish version: Sabrosito!) designed for the children themselves.

**Shirley B. Bixby, Darlene K. Jury
and Marilyn A. Corbin—2nd Place
(Pennsylvania)**

"Linking Research to Family and Youth Programs"

This electronic newsletter brings the research of Penn State faculty to Extension professionals. As knowledge is meaningless unless shared, this newsletter provides an accessible conduit for field-based educators to strengthen Extension's mission of translating research to practical applications for the citizens they serve.

**Daryl L. Minch, Haylee Boyle and
Marilou Rochford—3rd Place
(New Jersey)**

"Visions"

The statewide newsletter of the Family and Community Health Sciences Department in New Jersey includes articles on nutrition, fitness and lifestyle; food safety; and environmental health. The newsletter serves as an educational outreach method and a marketing tool. FCHS publishes three issues yearly and distributes 15,000 copies.

RADIO

**Janice Elizabeth Stoudnour—1st
Place (Pennsylvania)**

"Families Communicating Love"

Families that care about one another communicate their love every day. Parents act as role models for their children as they demonstrate the appropriate use of communication skills. Communicating positive relationship building behaviors on a daily basis improves the quality and commitment within the family relationship for children and parents.

TELEVISION

**Madeleine Greene, Stephen
Hannan and Susan Ellerbee—1st
Place (Maryland)**

"Fine Print"

This program reaches 65,000 subscriber households 28 times a month. Hot button consumer topics are monthly features along with product recalls. Experts are interviewed in a conversational format. Federal, state and local Government agencies (FTC, CDC, SEC, USDA, MD Attorney General, Health Dept.) are showcased through information sharing.

WRITTEN NEWS

**Megan J. O'Neil-Haight—1st Place
(Maryland)**

"Delmarva Youth Kids & Money Columns"

The Kids & Money column appears as a regular bi-monthly feature in Delmarva Youth Magazine. Delmarva Youth

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

COMMUNICATION AWARDS

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has 15,000+ distribution across 14 communities spanning Delaware and Maryland. Each column is exclusively authored by Megan O'Neil-Haight.

Theresa Christine Mayhew—2nd Place (New York)

"Those Financial Resolutions"

Financial education and resource management continues to be a program area that generates keen interest in Theresa's county. This newspaper article encourages readers to stay on track and not let their New Year's resolutions to build personal wealth and reduce credit card debt fall by the way side.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Sandra Parker Hall, Dennis Hall, Dorothy Krall, Jeanne Strack, Martha Gregory, Norma Swanger, Rachael Phillips, Rebecca Dietrich, Rich Johnson, Robert Goodling, Jr. and Winifred McGee—1st Place (Pennsylvania)

"Treasures of Lebanon County"

"Treasures of Lebanon County" provided a unique opportunity to recognize volunteers and supporters of Extension Family Living and 4-H Youth programs. Selected individuals' stories were captured by digital video interviews. A book, featuring each volunteer, accompanied by a twelve minute DVD, was produced and premiered at the County Annual Meeting.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM

PACKAGE

Daryl L. Minch—1st Place (New Jersey)

"Living with Food Allergies"

"Living With Food Allergies" addresses the increasing issue of food allergies. It includes a PowerPoint presentation, hands-on activities, and marketing materials designed to increase awareness, increase confidence, and provide skills for keeping food allergic individuals safe. The program addresses multiple food safety and human relations issues.

EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Cathy Faulcon Bowen and Peter Kauffman—1st Place (Pennsylvania)

"Credit Cards and College: Know the Facts"

This brochure alerts college students to key facts about using credit cards. It is available in all Penn State Bookstores (23) across the Commonwealth. In addition, it was distributed to the University Park campus freshmen during Fall 2005 orientation and is used in other credit education sessions for adults.

INTERNET EDUCATION

TECHNOLOGY

Karen M. Blass—1st Place (New Hampshire)

"Project C.A.S.H. (Creating a Savings Habit)"

The Project C.A.S.H. (Creating a Savings Habit) website (www.project-cash.unh.edu) is part of an overall initiative at the University of New

Hampshire to reach college students and their parents with information on basic money management. The web-site includes downloadable worksheets, PowerPoint presentations, and links to a variety of resources.

**Barbara Mary O'Neill, Bonnie Wasielewski and Phil Wisneski—
2nd Place (New Jersey)**

"Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension Money and Investing Web Site"

The Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension Money and Investing Web site consists of over 100 pages of research-based personal finance information. It includes fact sheets, online self-assessment tools, a glossary, tax information, and online PowerPoint presentations and is available at www.rce.rutgers.edu/money2000.

Public Relations Awards

MARKETING PACKAGE AWARD

Frances Fonner Alloway and Deanne Allegro (Pennsylvania)

"SuperCupboard Marketing Package"

This SuperCupboard marketing package includes a Coordinator's manual and video to assist new coordinators with program organization and recruiting for SuperCupboards. The video has also been used to attract funding and generate new enthusiasm for programs where SuperCupboards have been longstanding.

Deborah Hammond Rhoades (Maryland)

"First Class Fitness Food and Fun"

The First Class program was created to address the link between health and learning and the alarming health statistics affecting children and youth. Students and parents receive monthly health messages during the year via posters, announcements, PTA/school newsletters, cable TV health factoids and programs, web-site and calendar handbook.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

AWARD

Theresa Lee Serio, Cassandra Corridon, Connie Barnett, Connie Metcalf, Dianne Müller, Haylee Staruk, Ingrid Holmes, Jane Kostenko, Jean Austin, Jennifer Bentlejewski, LaTasha Coleman, Liat Mackey, Lisa Lachenmayr, Madeleine Greene and Phyllis McShane (Maryland)

"WalkWays—Promoting Health and Physical Activity through Community Partnerships"

WalkWays is a four-lesson curriculum designed to promote healthy eating and physical activity. Based on Stage of Change theory, it includes four lessons, leader's guide, participant materials (including log books and pedometers), and motivational mailings. WalkWays is learner-centered with emphasis on dialogue learning and social support to sustain behavior change.

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SOUTHERN REGION FINALISTS



Fellowships

GRACE FRYSSINGER

FELLOWSHIP

Susan K. Hovey (South Carolina)

Food safety and nutrition have always been Susan Hovey's main interests since her college days. Her love of Germany equals her interest in food since she speaks fluent German. She will combine these interests by visiting Extension Educators with the Department of Agriculture in Germany.

Professional Development Awards

EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Cynthia O. Griffith (Oklahoma)

A strong county Cooperative Extension program is enhanced by strong community partnerships. This has been a driving force in Cynthia Griffith's FCS programs. Working with other agencies and groups has provided opportunities for developing and presenting meaningful programs during her 27-year career.

FLORENCE HALL AWARD

Katherine E. Cobb (Arkansas)

When you are a recovering drug addict, eating well is hard. Most recovering addicts struggle with sugar, salt, and caffeine cravings. On their list of priorities, nutrition is far from the top. But during programs conducted at the Mills Center, residents learned healthy habits that they could become addicted to.

Sandra A. Kunkel (Texas)

In response to higher than average rate of diabetes in Medina County, Sandra Kunkel established a collaboration with the hospital and health department to establish Do Well, Be Well With Diabetes and Cooking Well With Diabetes Educational Programs in Medina County. Since 2003, ninety diabetics have completed the program.

Deborah S. Melvin and Faye Robichaux (Louisiana)

Move Your Feet...taking steps to a healthier Thibodaux, a community walking program co-chaired by the Extension Nutrition Agent and the School Board Child Nutrition Supervisor, received a grant for \$29,800 to conduct a Fitness Carnival, the Extension Portions Healthy Weight Management curriculum, and youth Organ Wise Guys and Take 10!

**Christopher Thomas Sneed,
Donna Calhoun and Heather Kyle
(Tennessee)**

Arthritis prevalence in Tennessee ranks among the highest in the nation. Within the state, arthritis classes are concentrated around metropolitan areas. Through partnerships with the Arthritis Foundation, training was provided for agents to teach the Arthritis Self-Help Course and People with Arthritis Can Exercise in a rural, tri-county area.

**Leslie Ann Workman, Cristy L.
Honaker and Theresa M. Scott
(Kentucky)**

Pike & Floyd Counties recognized their prevalence for colorectal cancer and the lack of information families were receiving about screening. Through a media blitz and educational programs people of all ages learned about modifiable risk factors and screening options.

NEW PROFESSIONAL AWARD

**Sondra Lynn Ganus Apple
(Tennessee)**

Sondra Ganus Apple works in Marshall County with 75 percent program responsibility in FCS. In one year alone, Sondra has made approximately 4,155 individual contacts teaching nutrition to youth, as well as providing more than 2,055 adults with necessary nutrition literature brought home by their children or distributed at site locations.

PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Celinda Bonnell (Oklahoma)

Celinda Bonnell, a bi-lingual Nutrition Education Assistant in Tulsa County, Oklahoma, works with the expanding Spanish speaking population. She is an excellent role model for families she teaches. In 2005, 78% of 116 enrolled participants completed nutrition education classes. She collaborates with agencies in the Hispanic community to enroll families.

Program Awards

**DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT AWARD**

**Janet Holland Johnson and Steve
Osborne (Kentucky)**

"Looking to the Future: Protecting Your Assets"

This workshop series creatively focused on skill development necessary for financial asset retention and retirement security, especially with long-term care and living will issues. 150 participants demonstrated practice changes resulting in the ultimate cost effective transfer of assets between multi-generational families.

Laura Royer (Florida)

"Moola Venture Money Camp"

The spending behavior of youth combined with their limited understanding of financial management promotes habits leading to costly mistakes in the future. Moola Venture Money Camp

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

PROGRAM AWARDS

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consists of a comprehensive curriculum that focuses on enhancing the budgeting, credit, investing, banking, comparison shopping and job interviewing skills of today's youth.

MARY W. WELLS DIVERSITY AWARD

Patricia Brown Margolis, Carolina Diaz-Puentes, Celia Lopez, Debra Goodman, John Rogers, Jorge Iberico, Juan Gutierrez, Kaye Amos, Kevin Denton, Kim Flora, Lucy Juett, Mary Coakley, Melinda A. McCulley and Nelson Atehortua (Kentucky)

"Hispanic/Latino Health Fair"

Many Hispanic/Latino families in Hart and Barren Counties in Kentucky do not have access to health care or health/nutrition information. Local citizens need education on adapting to cultural differences. Lack of health care creates an economic problem for the area.

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD

Sondra McDaniel Parmer, Alicia Raby Powers and Barbara Struempler (Alabama)

"Effects of a Nutrition Education Program on the Dietary Behavior and Nutrition Knowledge of Second-G"

Dietary behavior and nutrition knowledge in 773 elementary stu-

dents were assessed using a game methodology. Compared to the control group, experimental group children significantly ($p < .001$) improved in dietary behaviors and nutrition knowledge. Extension education can positively affect nutrition knowledge and behavior in children.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD

Omayra Morales Perez (Puerto Rico)

"Educative Environmental Campaign"

This Project targeted 200 4-H members and 30 leaders, 5-19, from 6 schools in the municipality of Villalba, Puerto Rico. The goal is to develop a group of future decision-making citizens who make environmentally-sound evaluation about the preservation and protection of natural resources.

EXTENSION HOUSING OUTREACH AWARD

Kathleen Roesel Byrnes (Kentucky)

"Today's Textiles - Buying Sheets and Towels"

"Today's Textiles – Buying Sheets and Towels" was developed to assist consumers with the confusion experienced when purchasing these bath and bed items. Fibers, sizes, weaves, trends, and product care were just some of the topics covered. Clientele discovered the newest textile terms and indicators of quality for these products.

Becky M. Chenhall, Dr. Jorge H. Atilas, Ginger Bennett, Joyce Habegger and Penny Thompson Keller (Georgia)

“Georgia Radon Education Program, The University of Georgia College of Family and Consumer Sciences”

The University of Georgia College of Family and Consumer Sciences Cooperative Extension Radon Education Program’s purpose is to prevent radon-induced lung cancer by promoting radon awareness through Extension. Radon, a naturally occurring invisible radioactive gas, is the second-leading cause of lung cancer. It kills approximately 21,000 people each year.

Terry Ruth Toombs (Louisiana)

“The Ins and Outs of Your Trailer Home”

“The Ins and Out of Your Trailer Home” introduces the water and waste, LP-Gas, and electrical systems, the appliances and safety concerns for temporary living in a travel trailer, provided by FEMA, as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The program also covers indoor air quality of the trailer.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD CARE TRAINING AWARD

Kathy Lyn Enyart, Aarika Holt, Barbara Denney, Janet Kleeman and Tari Lee (Oklahoma)

“Child Care Mini Conference”

Extension Educators teamed up with the Department of Human Services and Tribal Child Care Programs to provide training that would meet the needs of child care providers and

their staff. The conference was designed to improve the quality of care and increase the knowledge of teachers and staff.

FOOD SAFETY AWARD

Kathy Marsh Jump, All Seasons, Betsy Ann Tracy, Brandon Bell, Carol LaFaver, Christy Ramey, David Embrey, Gary Tilghman, Greg Drake, Janet Johnson, Jason Phillips, Lucy Forbes, Mindy McCulley, Pat Margolis, Rachel Hance, Season’s Hearth and Tracy Thornton (Kentucky)

“Grilling and Picnics”

This food safety program was presented using the train-the-trainer model to 108 leaders. As a result, over 1500 members of the Extension Homemaker organization adopted food safety practices. A media campaign and additional food safety programs reached the general public.

4-H EXCELLENCE IN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING AWARD

Annette Cole (Tennessee)

“Start To Finish”

“Start to Finish” Clothing Project was a perfect match for an intergenerational program partnership with Senior Citizens. 4-H Members meeting at the Senior Citizens Center, took home a completed project and learned a basic sewing skill each month at their after school sessions.

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

PROGRAM AWARDS

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Kathie Ann Wildes (Georgia)

"Life Skills for 4-Hers"

After-school knitting classes have been held for 5th and 6th graders for the past 3 years with 26 4-H'ers completing the classes. Participants learned basic knitting and completed blankets, scarves, pocketbooks, and ponchos. Some have sold their items, given them as gifts, and shared the art by teaching others.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

EDUCATION GRANT

Melinda Absher McCulley (Kentucky)

"Barren County Wellness Challenge"

The Barren County Wellness Challenge will be a total community effort to improve the health and wellness of citizens. This effort will focus on promoting healthy behaviors that lead to healthy lifestyles. Mass media pieces will be developed for use during the Wellness Challenge that will highlight healthy lifestyle choices.

Communication Awards

NEWSLETTERS

Brenda L. Marty-Jimenez—1st Place (Florida)

"The Apple Core Newsletter"

The Broward County Extension Education Apple Core newsletter was first published during August 2003. This quarterly publication shares up-

to-date nutrition and health information with over 800 citizens. With regular input from nutrition advisory committee members, Brenda Marty-Jimenez authors this educational newsletter and compiles and writes most of the material.

Stephanie Toelle and Trisha Howell—2nd Place (Florida)

"Score Together with Foods and Fitness"

This brief newsletter series for parents of "tweens" was given to parents as they picked up children from a nutrition class. It reinforced lessons taught, shared recipes used, encouraged a new family activity each week, and gave parenting principles to encourage the lifestyle changes.

Dolores Marie Sandmann, Andrew Crocker, Sharon Robinson and Terin Holbrook— 3rd Place (Texas)

"Health & Nutrition News"

Eating a healthful diet and staying active while growing older is a necessity to maintain wellness and independence. Health & Nutrition News was developed to provide seniors with information on nutrition, food safety, increasing physical activity, and becoming proactive in preventive health care in order to prevent chronic diseases.

RADIO

Cheryl Ann Maxwell—1st Place (Arkansas)

"Nutrition Tip of the Day"

March is designated as National Nutrition Month by the American Dietetic

Association. To increase awareness of healthy eating practices, 30 second nutrition tips were developed and recorded by Cheryl Maxwell, CEA - FCS for each weekday during March. The 24 PSAs were aired by KBOK Radio in Malvern, Arkansas.

TELEVISION

Amy Hastings Elizer—1st Place (Tennessee)

“Ways to Save Money”

Calculating the costs and helping individuals understand the role small, repetitive expenses play in making or breaking a budget was the topic of this two minute segment, which aired on Jackson, Tennessee’s television station during the 6 p.m. newscast for a May 2005 sweeps series titled, “Ways to Save Money”.

WRITTEN NEWS

Mary L. Rhyne—1st Place (Oklahoma)

“Beef Cooking School for Youth”

A Beef Cooking School involving 52 4-Her’s from three counties provided a day of education, nutrition, skill-building, and fun. Participants prepared and tasted seven beef recipes, and participated in educational presentations and games learning about the beef industry, food safety and preparation, food budgeting, and nutrition.

Deborah Melvin—2nd Place (Louisiana)

“Manage Menopause Symptoms with Exercise and Good Nutrition”

Recognizing National Menopause

Awareness month, an article was written to alert women who have discontinued hormone replacement therapy to healthy ways of managing their menopausal symptoms with exercise and healthy eating. Women responded to the results of the Women’s Health Initiative study of the side effects of estrogen-containing products.

Carrie T. Brazeal—3rd Place (Texas)

“Talking with Children About Difficult Topics”

Hurricane Katrina provided parents with an excellent opportunity to talk about difficult topics. Many parents feel challenged when faced with this opportunity. This column suggested that parents take some time, determine what they want to say and then talk. Several suggestions for talking with children about difficult situations were given.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Laura Royer—1st Place (Florida)

“Online Convenience: Is It Really Safe?”

Being victimized by fraud is a fear many consumers have. “Online Convenience: Is It Really Safe?” targets consumers who use the internet and subsequently share personal information in various forms. The program addresses internet frauds that arise from Phishing, Pharming, RATs, Malware, Internet Auctions and other misuses of the computer.

Dolores Marie Sandmann—2nd Place (Texas)

“No Bones About It—Ethics in the Workplace”

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

COMMUNICATION AWARDS

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“No Bones About It—Ethics in the Workplace” was developed as a creative approach to teaching an important issue to new Extension employees in Texas. Employees who place a high priority on ethical behavior benefit in increased credibility, greater job efficiency, increased clientele loyalty, and greater personal satisfaction.

Denise Roberts Shirley—3rd Place (Alabama)

“Family Mealttime: A Key Ingredient to Strengthening Families”

This PowerPoint presentation promotes the family meal as a health measure for improving dietary quality, reducing overweight, and improving educational and social outcomes in children. Accompanying scripts provide activities, handouts and mealtime family communication ideas.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM PACKAGE

Dolores Marie Sandmann, Andrew Crocker, Sharon Robinson and Terin Holbrook—1st Place (Texas)

“EAT SMART—Chronic Disease Prevention”

Eating a healthy diet and staying active while growing older is a necessity to maintaining wellness and independence. EAT SMART was developed to provide seniors with information on nutrition, food safety, increasing physical activity, and becoming proactive in preventive

health care in order to prevent chronic diseases.

Johanna S. Hicks—2nd Place (Texas)

“Beware of Look-Alikes”

The frequency of accidental poisoning was greater than first thought. Mix-ups between similar looking products affect not only children, but adults, as well. Through a variety of educational methods, Hopkins County citizens became more aware of steps to take to keep their families and community safe.

Rachel West, Ann Hudgins, Emily Ryan, Sylvia Davis and Terri Cameron—3rd Place (Georgia)

“The NEW Way to Have a Balanced Day”

“The NEW Way to Have a Balanced Day” guided 1,065 School Nutrition Program Employees through the changes in the Dietary Guidelines and MyPyramid. Through a PowerPoint presentation, written and hands-on activities, participants learned how to provide nutritious meals at school and make healthy food choices at home.

EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Debra Barker Cotterill and Stephanie Derifield—1st Place (Kentucky)

“Centerpieces and Table Decorations...2005 Trends and Traditions”

Centerpieces and Table Decorations...2005 Trends and Traditions reviewed current market trends in table decorations and floral design. Participants learned to create

tablescapes and floral decorations using basic principles of design and cost saving methods. In addition, this publication explored consumer lifestyle as a tool for personal choice in current trends.

Julie Diane Smith—2nd Place (Texas)

“Building Blocks for Family Health and Medical Record Keeping”

With the enactment of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996, it has become more important for families to keep their own health and medical records. Through an educational program targeting rural families, tools were developed to help build a personal health and medical record keeping system.

Marsha Mitchell Smith—3rd Place (North Carolina)

“Tip for Parents - A Parent’s Guide to Children’s Weight”

A Tips for Parents pamphlet was developed at the request of a school nurse for information to accompany a letter to parents concerning the BMI measurements of their children. The pamphlet gives simple strategies for encouraging good eating and physical activity habits to help children achieve and maintain healthy weights.

Public Relations Awards

MARKETING PACKAGE AWARD

Anita McKinney (Florida)

“First Coast Get Checking Marketing Package”

The First Coast Get Checking pro-

gram was launched in 2005. The marketing program includes two brochures, program flyers, a table tent, web page, gift certificate, news releases, radio and TV spot outlines, marketing ideas for participating financial institutions, and an evaluation summary/flyer which describes the first year results.

Dana Lynn Tarter and Susan Ballabina (Texas)

“Wellness in the City”

An educational initiative between Dallas and Tarrant counties, the goal of the program is to provide urban residents with information to help them make healthy lifestyle choices. Marketing materials have been developed to promote and help maximize participation in the “Wellness in the City” programs.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

AWARD

Deborah S. Melvin and Faye Robichaux (Louisiana)

“Move Your Feet...Taking Steps to a Healthier Thibodaux”

A community walking program, co-chaired by the Extension Nutrition Agent and the School Board Child Nutrition Supervisor, received a grant for \$29,800 to conduct a Fitness Carnival, the Extension Portions Healthy Weight Management curriculum, and youth Organ Wise Guys and Take 10!

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WESTERN REGION FINALISTS



Fellowships

GRACE FRYNSINGER FELLOWSHIP

Darcy Lorraine Dixon (Arizona)

With the assistance of the NEAFCS Grace Frysinger Fellowship, Darcy Dixon plans to travel to Ecuador to identify orphanage staff training needs and to train in-country trainers to teach early brain development to orphanage staff. The goal is to improve the lives of the earth's most vulnerable population.

Professional Development Awards

EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Donna J. Liess, Cheryl Asmus and Janet Benavente (Colorado)

To deliver the message to decision-makers, create a document on value of Colorado's family and consumer science extension education. Survey all extension educators to identify baseline. Two programs were selected to show comparative data to counties without such programs. Plan delayed now due to position changes and deficient funding.

FLORENCE HALL AWARD

Joy Lynn Akey, Alice Hilzer, Bonnie Sherman, Cheryl Kraich,

Dianne Stille, Faith Poet, Gisele Jefferson, Joan Unrein, Linda Staples, Luann Boyer, Sandy Baker and Vickie Lopez (Colorado)

Because Northeast Colorado counties have a higher-than-state average for cases of diagnosed diabetes, Extension Agents presented a broad range of educational programs in collaboration with agencies, organizations, business and industry. Programs focus on prevention through increased awareness as well as management of the disease for those already diagnosed.

Sharon Hoelscher Day, Elizabeth Schnoll, Evelyn Whitmer, Jeff Lisse, Joyce Alves, Linda Block, Linda Houtkooper, Linda Larkey, Lynne Durrant, Robin Harris, Scot Going, Tim Lohman, Vanessa Stanford and Victoria Steinfelt (Arizona)

"Bone Builders"

Bone Builders is an osteoporosis prevention and social marketing program built on partnerships with Cooperative Extension and more than 100 partners. Bone Builders has trained 300 volunteers and taught more than 7400 women in the past 2 years. Women report knowledge and behavior changes as a result of the classes.

Marsha A. Goetting, Ardis Oelkers, Bobbie Roos, Debbie Donovan, Judy Johnson, Lynn Paul, Michael Vogel, Sandy Bailey, Shelia Friedrich and Tara Andrews (Montana)

The Northeastern Montana Alzheimer's series for caregivers was presented in a five-county area over the course of a week by County Extension Agents using a video and local experts and MSU FCS specialists discussing family interactions and caregiver stress, food and nutrition, financial planning and legal issues, and housing adaptations.

Adrie J. Roberts (Utah)

Utah has consistently had the highest number of bankruptcies per household in the nation. In response to this, Adrie Roberts coordinated efforts to establish a Utah State University Extension Bankruptcy Prevention Issues Team to determine and facilitate a course of action to assist with financial education throughout Utah.

NEW PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Carolyn V. Washburn (Utah)

Carolyn Washburn has served as the Family Consumer Science Educator for Washington County since January, 2004. Her responsibilities include food and nutrition, finance, human relationships, and youth programs. She has found success for her programs from networking with her community. She has a strong commitment to those she serves.

PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Marilou Vaughn (Wyoming)

A 19 year Cent\$ible Nutrition educator, Marilou makes measurable impacts on individuals and young people. 2004 Outstanding Assistant Projects Manager, team winner for USDA LINC Award for Excellence in Practice and 3rd place NEAFCS Educational Curriculum Package in 2005, Marilou strives to make learning about nutrition fun and meaningful.

Program Awards

DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AWARD

Marsha A. Goetting, Ardis Oelkers, Bernie Mason, Corinne Cramer, Denise Seilstad, Jane Wolery, Judy Johnson, Kathy Revello, Laurie Lutt, Shelia Fredrich and Tara Andrews (Montana)

"Get Smart About Credit"

The Get Smart About Credit program, offered by Montana State University Extension Family and Consumer Science agents, was designed to create an awareness of the costs of paying the minimum balance on credit cards. Program collaborators included the Montana Credit Unions for Community Development and the First Interstate BancSystem Foundation.

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

PROGRAM AWARDS

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MARY W. WELLS DIVERSITY

AWARD

Joanne Marie Roueche (Utah)

"Kaysville Community Apartments - Making A Difference"

Kaysville Community Apartments are low-income, subsidized housing. Half the residents are Hispanic. All families are very low-income. Extension helped develop community gardens & 14 youth & 10 adults received new bikes. Adults used bikes as transportation to get to work. In addition Wonderful Outdoor World Camps were held.

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE

THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD

Christine Anne Pasley, Alan Moore, Cindy Herrera, Deborah Johnson, Denise Smith, Joe Gieck, Michael Liebman, Paige Parker, Pam Henderson, Patricia Griffith, Peg Cullen, Phyllis Lewis, Sara Olsen, Suzanne Pelican and Theresa Richardson (Wyoming); Ardis Oelkers, Bernie Mason, Corrine Cramer, Denise Seilstad, Jane Wolery, Jennifer Anderson, Jennifer Wells, Judy Johnson, Julie Riley, Kathy Hammer, Kathy Revello, Laurie Lutt, Linda Williams, Lynn Paul, Rae Lynn Benson, Ricarda Braatz, Sheila Frederich and Tara Andrews (Montana); and Joey Peutz, Katie

Nelson, Linda Gossett, Marnie Spencer, Marsha Lockard, Martha Raidl, and Rhea Lanting (Idaho)

"Steps to A New You"

Steps to A New You is a healthy lifestyles program combining food/physical activity/body image classes with pedometer-based physical activity program. This approach to well-being is evaluated through applied research planned and conducted by the universities of Wyoming and Idaho and Montana State University educators. Initial results indicate participants make positive changes.

Martha A. Raidl, Audrey Liddil, Julia Welch, Kris Spain, Marnie Spencer, Marsha Lockard, Rhea Lanting and Shelly Johnson (Idaho)

"The Healthy Diabetes Plate"

One hundred seventeen participants completed the four lesson diabetes education curriculum called The Healthy Diabetes Plate. Between 86-99% of participants were able to correctly plan breakfast, lunch, and dinner meals. Eating habit surveys completed at lessons 1 and 4 showed participants significantly increased their fruit and vegetable consumption.

FOOD SAFETY AWARD

Lynn C. Paul, A.J. Parker, Albert LaRance, Deborah Haines, Deborah LaVeaux, Earl Nault, Ed Doney, Fred Steele, Ken Hull, Laurie Lutt, Mary St. Pierre,

Molly Stenberg, Stan Zander and Winona Woolff (Montana)

"Celebrating Safe Food at Pow Wows"

Montana State University Extension with seven Montana tribal communities produced an important food safety training video Celebrating Safe Food at Pow Wows. This resource assists Native American entrepreneurs boost profits by learning and practicing food safety techniques in temporary food vending stands. Key food safety strategies are presented.

4-H EXCELLENCE IN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMMING AWARD

Joey Dawn Peutz, Arlinda Nauman, Bridget Morrisroe-Aman and Maureen Toomey (Idaho)

"Notus 4-H Summer Day Camp"

University of Idaho Extension engaged in afterschool programming through a USDA, Children, Youth and Families At-Risk grant. Programming goals and development included a summer 4-H day camp targeted at reaching underserved youth and children. Children participating in the afterschool program developed life skills while teenagers gained employment skills and opportunities.

Glenda Lynne Wentworth (Colorado)

"Babysitter Basics Training Program"

The Babysitter Basics Training Program is a 7.5-hour training session designed for youth in fifth through seventh grades to develop care giving

knowledge and skills while preparing them for the challenges of babysitting. It provides an opportunity to learn about child development, first aid and safety in a fun atmosphere.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES EDUCATION GRANT

Luann K. Boyer (Colorado)

"Diabetes Education Menu Insert"

A Diabetes Education Menu Insert will be developed to use at locally-owned, full-service restaurants in Morgan County during National Nutrition Month. The insert will educate diners on why carbohydrates are needed, appropriate serving sizes and selecting menu items that fit the diabetes guidelines for carbohydrates.

Communication Awards

NEWSLETTERS

Sheila Diane Ryan, Ann E. Diede, Betty Meloy, Kay Hendrickson, Lizann Powers-Hammond and Margaret Viebrock—1st Place (Washington)

"Para Su Familia"

Para Su Familia is an English/Spanish newsletter, written, edited and marketed by a team of Washington Extension Educators. Articles focus on parenting, child development, communications, health, family finance, housing, nutrition and food safety. Sixty-five percent of readers have made a positive behavior change as a result of reading the newsletter.

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

COMMUNICATION AWARDS

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Vicki Hayman, Virginia Craig and William Taylor—2nd Place (Wyoming)

“The Extension Informer”

The Weston County Cooperative Extension Service staff publishes this informative newsletter on research-based information. The Family and Consumer Sciences section is geared towards impacting families' knowledge of nutrition, food, food safety, and health.

Lois G. Illick—3rd Place (Colorado)

“Sensible Living”

Each issue of the Pueblo County “Sensible Living” newsletter is designed to cover four major areas of family and consumer knowledge including: family issues, financial education, nutrition, and food safety. It is targeted to a general audience and has been an effective method for informing constituents of classes and events.

RADIO

Nina R. Roll—1st Place (Oregon)

“OSU Extension Spotlights Respite Care”

Respite Care is an essential tool for family caregivers, however it is difficult for caregivers to accept that using Respite Care is a positive thing, benefiting both themselves and the loved one they care for. Radio Extension Spotlights provide an avenue for conversation with caregivers wherever they are.

TELEVISION

Barbara Dawn Petty—1st Place (Idaho)

“Married and Loving It!”

The Married and Loving It! promotional video provides an overview of the program. Testimonials from class participants validate the impact participating in the program has made on their marriages. Results of a telephone survey conducted by the University of Idaho indicate the effectiveness by reporting the increase in marital satisfaction.

WRITTEN NEWS

Patricia Jean Aaron—1st Place (New Mexico)

“Add Some Color to Your Diet”

“New Mexico’s Own,” a bimonthly column written by Patricia since 1994 and published in the Food Section of the Albuquerque Journal, focuses on nutrition information and food preparation. This article continues her exploration into the science link in the food chain with a look at phytochemicals.

Darlene A. Christensen—2nd Place (Utah)

“Ring, Ring, Ring—Is that the Cash Register?”

Tooele County is #1 in the state of Utah in bankruptcies. Utah is the #1 state in the nation in bankruptcies filed. A news article was written during the manic-spending time of the Holidays to encourage less spending.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM PACKAGE

Rhea K. Lanting and Martha Raidl—1st Place (Idaho)

“Osteoporosis, Prevention and Treatment: Your Bones, Your Body”

This four-lesson curriculum was developed for adults. Participants learn a practical approach for preventing and treating osteoporosis through healthy meal planning and increased physical activity. Program outcomes have shown an increase in knowledge, calcium consumption and physical activity.

EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Jeanne D. Brandt—1st Place (Oregon)

“Holiday Gift Guide for Older Adults”

The Holiday Gift Guide for Older Adults urges gift-givers to consider gifts that will enhance the quality of life of the receiver. Safety, comfort and convenience are targeted. The challenges of sensory and mobility decreases experienced by older adults and increased safety and security concerns are taken into account.

INTERNET EDUCATION

TECHNOLOGY

Sharon Hoelscher Day and Andrew Felicetti—1st Place (Arizona)

“Bone Builders Social Marketing Website”

The Bone Builders website is critical to the social marketing of the statewide osteoporosis prevention

program targeting women of all ages. Health websites, like Arizona Orthopedic Surgeons Association and Center for Disease Control link to bonebuilder.org for information. More than 12,000 people with 430,000 hits visit the site annually.

Public Relations Awards

MARKETING PACKAGE AWARD

Jan B. Carroll, Ellen Butler, Jeff Goodwin and Melissa Oliver (Colorado)

“Colorado 4-H Impact Study”

The Colorado 4-H Impact Study was conducted to provide research-based information to decision-makers about the effect of 4-H Youth Development membership on the lives of young people. The study also explored how Colorado youth spend their time out of school and how this shapes their educational, emotional, and social skills.

Margaret A. Viebrock (Washington)

“Walking to Wellness”

“Walking to Wellness” promotes healthier attitudes and behaviors to increased physical activity. This program was designed for small rural communities. Techniques for setting personal goals, motivating people, using walking logs, newsletters and nutrition classes were included. Lowered blood pressure and cholesterol, diabetes control, decreased stress and personal control were reported.

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2006 NEAFCS REGIONAL AWARDS

PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARDS

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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

AWARD

Marilyn Cross Bischoff, Carol Hampton, Beverly Healy, Audrey Liddil, Marsha Lockard, Barbara Petty, Kathee Tift and Sharlene Woffinden (Idaho); Vicki Hayman, Patti Griffith, Phyllis Lewis, Stella McKinstry, Chris Pasley, Denise Smith, Dr. Ruth Wilson and Carla Mahar (Wyoming); Gail Brand, Susan Brown, Maureen Burson, Ann Fenton, Nancy Frecks, Jeanette Friesen, Teri Gemar, Jessye Goertz, Alice Henneman, Mary Ann Holland, Eileen Krumbach, Kathleen Lodl, Mary Loftis, Leanne Manning, Jeanne Murray, Mary Nelson, Andrea Nisley, Lynne Osborn, Sue Pearman, Deanna Peterson, Carol Plate, Sandy Preston, Sarah Purcell, Debra Schroeder, Cindy Strasheim, Dianne Swanson, Cheryl Tickner, Rebecca Versch, Ruth Vonderohe and Mary Kay

Warner (Nebraska); Sandra Aamlid, Donna Bittiker, Amanda Diede, Ellyn Eddy, Sharon Guthmiller, Sally Park Hageman, Carolyn Hendricks, Corrine Huber, Cheryl Jacobs, Bobbi Larsen, Tracey Lehrke, Becky Leonard, Ingrid Lindberg, Julie McKay, Lavonne Meyer, Sandra Namken, Nancy Pauly, Karen Petrik, Debra Rombough, Ruth Schmeichel, Karen Slunecka, Linda I. Smith, Deb Sundem, Laurie Tangen, Karla Trautman, Ann Votaw, Marjorie Zastrow, Elizabeth Gorham (South Dakota); and Caroline E. Crocoll and Anna Mae Kobbe (USDA)

“Medicare Drug Card Community Partnership”

Extension educators in five states partnered with more than 283 civic groups and community agencies to educate and enroll Medicare beneficiaries in the first-ever Medicare Prescription Drug Cards. Nearly 47,000 people were enrolled in Medicare Drug Card programs. Enrollees could afford to purchase medications and saved nearly \$1,600,000.

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