

2007
NATIONAL AND
REGIONAL AWARDS





Dear NEAFCS Members and Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate the 2007 NEAFCS Awards and Fellowship winners.

Each year, NEAFCS has the distinct honor of recognizing those members who have excelled in scholarly activity and we are excited to celebrate the contributions they make not only to the profession but to the clientele they serve. I am personally impressed with the excellence in educational programming and cutting-edge technology displayed by our regional and national award winners.

A big "Thank You" for the 464 award applications that were submitted from 43 affiliates.

Again please accept my congratulations and best wishes.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol C. Schlitt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carol C. Schlitt
2006-2007 NEAFCS President

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SDA CLEAN HOMES...SAFE AND HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAM AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Regional Awards

CENTRAL REGION

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WESTERN REGION

Awards & Recognition Committee

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 Frysinger 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

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

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

SPONSORED BY: **NEAFCS MEMBERS**

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

moting 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

Christine Kniep (Chair)

University of Wisconsin Extension

E. County Road Y

Oshkosh, WI, 54901-8131

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.

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

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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 (OEAFC)

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.

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...Safe and Healthy Families Program Award of Excellence

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.

Excellence in 4-H 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 Press Releases, Internet Education Technology, 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.

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FELLOWSHIPS

Greenwood Fellowship

**Lisa Tucker Gilmore
(Arkansas)**

Health plays an integral role in quality of life, especially when there is a lack of it. This award will be used to pursue a Doctorate in Public Health Leadership from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, better equipping her to help Arkansans improve quality of life and well-being.

Grace Frysinger Fellowship

**Kathleen Roesel Byrnes
(Kentucky)**

In an effort to reach more of the 150,000+ citizens of Kenton County, Kentucky, Kathy utilized this grant for expenses incurred while visiting Extension personnel in Nebraska and other states to learn first hand how to design a better web education effort and manage it on a regular basis.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Distinguished Service Award

CENTRAL REGION

Deborah L. Angell (Ohio)

Specializing in nutrition and food safety, Deb was one of the first to offer ServSafe in Ohio and worked to develop required food safety training for OSU Extension staff and volunteers. She teaches nutrition and food safety to day care providers, and through Good Foods for Good Health programs.

Brenda K. Bell (Missouri)

Developed with March of Dimes funding, now in the third printing. Training presented to 500+ educators and health professionals. 500 copies were distributed to schools and health agencies in Missouri; 460 additional copies purchased by users from 24 states through MU Extension and NASCO. A five-year follow-up evaluation verified impact.

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DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

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**Cherlyn A. Christiansen
(South Dakota)**

Cherlyn, currently focusing on youth development/4-H, works with all ages in Family/Consumer Science programs. During her 29 year career she's developed programs and curriculum with emphasis in nutrition/physical fitness and character education. Her current projects include after school 4-H clubs and Cultural Day Camps on two South Dakota Indian Reservations.

Glenice V. Johnson (Minnesota)

Glenice Johnson's 43-year career includes county, regional, and state Extension work, international experience, and 20+ years as campus faculty. Current family resource management programs include Financial Security in Later Life, Home Stretch, and Financial Literacy Mentoring. She has received local, state, regional and national level recognition.

Donna Rae Krug (Kansas)

A growing Hispanic population has brought new challenges to Donna Krug, Family and Consumer Science Agent. Educational programs emphasizing nutrition, parenting, housing and budgeting are helping to make a difference. Krug enjoys building trusting relationships with these young families and watching them put into practice what they have learned.

Macine Ann Lukach (North Dakota)

Macine Lukach, Extension Agent since 1992 adding Family Nutrition Program responsibilities in 1996 emphasizes nutrition and food safety programs in working with rural families. Additional programming in 4-H, youth and human development and technology results in educational opportunities for child care providers, computer skills development and improved youth educational programs.

Marma Jean McIntee (Wisconsin)

Accomplishments include collaborative efforts and transformational education to address family issues and develop successful programs of benefit to children, youth, and families. Among them are Celebrate Families, Building Bridges: Understanding Latino Families, Germantown Youth Futures, Youth Money Smart College and the Germantown ABC Project (Acting to Build our Children's Future).

Judi K. Merkel (Indiana)

Working collaboratively on locally identified issues is the hallmark of Judi Merkel's contributions to Purdue Extension. Due to her capable leadership skills, she initiated coalitions for families, health, and wellness. Judi's educational programs have received state and national recognition, and her encouragement of fellow professionals continues to be an inspiration.

**Margaret Mary Olive
(Wisconsin)**

In her position as a University of Wisconsin-Extension Family Living Agent, Peggy works closely with community partners to identify emerging issues, research solutions, and implement programs designed to strengthen individuals, families, and communities. Current areas of programming include family financial management, affordable housing, and adults caring for young children.

Susan K. Plassmeier (Indiana)

During Susan's 24 years with Purdue Extension, she has worked as a Youth Educator and a Consumer and Family Sciences Educator. Susan works closely with local schools to offer programs on nutrition, food safety and hand washing. She has also collaborated with local agencies to provide programs for at-risk audiences.

**Katherine Jarrell Reuter
(Illinois)**

Katherine Reuter, Consumer and Family Economics Educator for University of Illinois Extension, provides diversified leadership and expertise in money management and consumer resource management. Over the past 29 years, Reuter had many program accomplishments including Financing Long-Term Care: A Consumer Education Program and Retirement Housing Options for the 21st Century.

Holle Rae Smith (Iowa)

Holle Smith is well known as a family educator. She is currently gives leadership to the PROSPER program, one of fourteen sites in the nation. Money Talk is presented. Daily radio spots and a weekly news column offer family information. Harkin grant projects including Innovative programs are delivered.

EASTERN REGION

Linda Kay Davis (West Virginia)

Kay Davis contributed significantly to chronic disease prevention and nutrition education programs in West Virginia focusing on diabetes, senior wellness, family cardiac education and food safety. She has served in a variety of leadership positions in her state organization as well as extension center committees.

**Mary Reistetter Ehret
(Pennsylvania)**

Mary Reistetter Ehret, an Educator and Supervisor for Penn State Nutrition Links, recognizes the importance of professional development to remain current and effective when teaching research based information. She enlightens and excites nutrition education advisors to reach limited resourced families and older adults with the message of good nutrition.

Marilou Rochford (New Jersey)

Marilou Rochford, associate professor with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, is family and com-

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DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

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munity health sciences educator for Rutgers Cooperative Extension. She has created numerous innovative programs, provided leadership in her community and state, most recently chairing the Children's Health Summit: Fighting Back Against Childhood Obesity statewide project.

SOUTHERN REGION

**Ronda Denice Alexander
(Texas)**

Ronda Alexander has served as County Extension Agent for Texas Cooperative Extension for eighteen years. She has conducted educational programming efforts in the areas of nutrition and health education, life skills, safety, youth development, character education, leadership development and community development for both youth and adult audiences.

Joy L. Buffalo (Arkansas)

Resource management and food safety are priorities in the urban county Joy serves. Concerned with the cost of keeping people poor resulted in creating materials on payday lending abuse. Joy's passion in food safety provides features on television, magazines, and statewide newspaper articles. Joy began employment with Extension in 1990.

Inez Burcham (Texas)

Inez Burcham, Extension Agent for 16 years with the Expanded Nutrition Program works with disadvan-

taged families and youth to help them acquire knowledge, skills, and change behaviors necessary for nutritionally sound diets. Most importantly, she knows these skills and knowledge assist clients with their overall health and well being.

Debra Barker Cotterill (Kentucky)

Major program efforts include Nutrition, Healthy Lifestyles, Economic Development and Leadership Development. Advisor to one of the largest Extension Homemaker Groups in Kentucky and to the regional Agritourism industry. State wide contributions include co-creator or co-author of publications on food preparation, home decor, window treatments and wardrobe planning.

Diann Douglas (Florida)

An Extension career that began 23 years ago, I've been in Madison County since 1994. Educational efforts focus on family resource management and human development. Through a variety of delivery methods; clients learn to manage money by setting goals, planned spending, debt reduction, saving money and keeping financial records.

Amy Hastings Elizer (Tennessee)

Amy Elizer's primary educational focuses are family economics and nutrition and health education, which are taught through cooking schools, walking programs, one-on-one financial counseling, and a county-wide homebuyer's event.

Gail M. Hanula (Georgia)

Gail M. Hanula, EFNEP Coordinator for UGA Cooperative Extension, co-authored Georgia 4-H Nutrition and Healthy Lifestyles curriculum and Walk-a-Weigh, an NEAFCS award winner. Active nationally in EFNEP, she serves on the ECOP EFNEP Task Force and chaired the NEERS5 training committee. She is former Senior Director of her GEAFCS district.

Sandra Best Head (North Carolina)

As an Extension Agent, Sandra Head has demonstrated ability to plan and organize a broad range of educational events and activities. She supervises four parent educators, managing performance to meet specified outcomes and goals for grant funding. She is recognized for ability to deliver presentations that engage target audience.

Johanna S. Hicks (Texas)

Diabetes education in Hopkins County makes impact through several venues: Cooking for a Healthy Lifestyle with the Diabetic Chef Conference, Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes, Cooking Well with Diabetes, Type 2: We're on to You, Diabetes Support Group, and one-shot programs. Literally hundreds have benefited from these programs.

Evelynn Arleen James (Oklahoma)

During her 13 years with the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Arleen James has consistently pro-

vided quality educational programs in response to emerging community issues. A commitment to diversity and valuing of partnerships has provided numerous opportunities to improve the quality of life for the residents in Texas County.

Janna Lynnae Kelley (Oklahoma)

Janna Kelley has been in the position of Extension Educator, Family & Consumer Sciences/4-H Youth Development for 19 years. She has been active on the Family Resiliency Impact Team. She has been a member of NEAFCS for 19 years and served as awards and recognition chairperson.

Jovita Jones Lewis (Alabama)

Jovita Lewis is an Extension Specialist with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and has served Extension clientele for 17 years. Jovita administers the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program in 12 West Central Alabama counties working closely with Agent Assistants and volunteers to enhance the lives of limited-resource families.

Rose Willey Massey (North Carolina)

Rose W. Massey, Northampton County Extension Director, is delivering Cooperative Extension Programming that focuses on addressing the high mortality rate of diabetes, childhood overweight and obesity, and food safety education. She has also been

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a leader in developing a nature trail which provided a community asset for physical activity.

Pamela J. Myers (Louisiana)

In a small Louisiana parish, Pam Myers utilizes a network of connections to provide programming which address the needs of families and youth. Collaboration with schools, recreation and health agencies helps to reach youth and families with school-based nutrition programs and activities such as the annual parish Family Fitness Day.

Christy Houk Ramey (Kentucky)

As chairman and founder of the Edmonson County Healthy Communities Coalition, this University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences is leading the fight to prevent disease with nutrition education, physical activity challenges, anti-smoking programs, food security activities and increased socialization through volunteer service opportunities.

Jackie M. Ramsey (Alabama)

Jackie Ramsey has been an active member of NEAFCS for 31 years. She has worked with 4-H Youth Development, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Leadership Development. She serves as the Coordinator for Jefferson County, the largest county in Alabama, and she strongly believes

in the overall mission of Extension.

Cynthia C. Richard (Louisiana)

Cynthia worked with the 4-H program for 12 years and has spent the last 17 years working with adult FCS audiences. She specializes in Family Resource Management and has taught the Home Buyer Education program to almost 700 clients. She chairs the Southwest Louisiana Community Housing Resource Board.

Belinda Riddle (Tennessee)

Outstanding Programs: Coalitions to Improve Health Access Among Hispanics in Tennessee/Kentucky awarded National Mary Wells Diversity and Internet Technology awards; Nutrition and Consumer Ed. for Food Stamp Families; Wellness: Dining With Diabetes, Heart Health Red Dress Campaign, Tai Chi and Self-Help Course for Arthritis; Parenting Apart for Divorcing couples.

Deana Lou Sageser (Texas)

Deana Sageser has contributed to the improvement of the well-being of Hale County residents through her nutrition and food safety education. Networking with local collaborators has impacted the program with positive results in a better understanding of general nutrition and food safety issues. Programming has reached pre-school students through adults.

Rita Gail Stewart (Kentucky)

Addressing key issues within the community via innovative programming and working in partnership

with other agencies has led to Ritas overall success in reaching and making an impact on the lives of families. Her leadership and involvement within professional organizations and community sustains her growth as a professional.

Debbie Elaine Still (Arkansas)

Debbie Still, County Extension Agent-Family & Consumer Sciences has worked for 12 years. Her main focus is in Foods and Nutrition. She has had an intensive program in nutrition in the schools reaching 2100 students last year. ServSafe is another focus program she has conducted with 203 participants last year.

Kathryn Ilene Turner (Texas)

During her 23-year Extension career, Kathy has served the citizens of three different Texas counties. She is committed to meeting the educational needs of all people and has formed collaborative partnerships. Her recent work focused on Diabetes Education Classes, Walk Across Texas and other wellness initiatives.

Mary B. Wakefield (Tennessee)

Mary Wakefield's career in Extension spans 30 years. Through her teaching and training limited resource youth and adults have gained life enhancing knowledge and skills in Youth Development, Community Resource Development and Family and Consumer Sciences. Most recently she has taken a holistic approach

to address obesity through gardening.

Deborah Denise Womack (North Carolina)

Deborah is passionate about teaching financial literacy. Her bubbly personality makes learning fun. She is considered an expert in the field by her colleagues and the clients she helps. Her creativity and innovative teaching methods are key ingredients in helping residents of Forsyth County become self-sufficient.

WESTERN REGION

Linda M. Block (Arizona)

Linda Block is an FCS Agent and coordinator of CHAPS. In the past six years, 633 teams with 5,669 participants in Walk Across Arizona walked 1,164,681 miles and the Pima County Bone Builders' Program trained 130 volunteers and delivered 490 classes and fairs to reach over 58,000 people.

Sally R. Bowman (Oregon)

Sally Bowman is a Family Specialist who garnered over \$1.4 million in external funds to develop geriatric education materials, gerontology events, and experiential early childhood, hunger, and inmate transition simulations. She provides technical assistance and evaluation for 18 rural parent education projects, and oversees the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program.

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**Margaret C. Johns
(California)**

Nutrition education, money management and workforce preparation for low-income families are the focus of Margaret's program. She utilizes a trainer-the-trainer program delivery model to extend researched-based programs throughout the county. She has received national and state awards for her research and educational programs in nutrition, money management and workforce preparation.

Phyllis B. Lewis (Wyoming)

Phyllis became a member in 1996 and has actively served on both the state and national levels ever since. Last year she chaired the national awards ceremony. Her major emphasis is in the area of nutrition and food safety.

**Ann B. Parkinson
(Utah)**

Ann Parkinson serves as an FCS/4-H Educator in Sevier County, Utah. She joined USU Extension staff in 1991. During her 15+ years with Extension, she has implemented 4-H After-school programs in five elementary schools, taught nutrition & finance education, and worked with Native American and Latino audiences.

Gayla K. Weaver (New Mexico)

As an active member of the New

Mexico affiliate, Gayla, has served in various leadership capacities including vice president, president-elect and president. An extension educator since 1992, she coordinates the EFNEP and FSNEP program as well as Healthy Kitchens and Kitchen Creations - Diabetes Cooking Schools for Dona Ana County.

Jane Amber Wolery (Montana)

Jane Wolery has served as an extension educator since 1996, starting in Sheridan County, Wyoming and now serving in Teton County, Montana. Wolery's programs have focused on improved quality of life -- from increasing technology skills to improving personal health. Wolery is known dedication to lifelong learning.

Continued Excellence Award

CENTRAL REGION

Beverly Stout Berna (Iowa)

Beverly Stout Berna has an outstanding ability to build community partnerships and raise funds to meet family needs. Projects demonstrating her impact are AmeriCorps Partners in Learning and Multicultural Family Center which provided over 1.3 million hours of volunteer service and in FY06 raised from grants and local partners \$348,000.

CONTINUED EXCELLENCE AWARD

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Carol Elizabeth Chandler (Ohio)

A 20 year Extension professional, Carol is recognized for her programming in the area of family life. She is committed to professional development for herself and others on issues related to parenting, healthy marriages, and midlife. Carol actively participates in professional development opportunities to incorporate new knowledge into program efforts.

Donna Doll-Yogerst (Wisconsin)

Donna Doll-Yogerst has served as Professor and Family Living Agent in rural Oconto County, Wisconsin for 27 years. Her parenting focus is built around the local parenting through partnerships and coalitions. Thriving with your Spirited Child, winner of the NEAFCS Educational Technology Award fills an identified need.

Mary Lou Elbert (Indiana)

Mary Lou Elbert has been a member of NEAFCS for 25 years and received the Distinguished Service Award in 2005. She has attended four National Meetings. Mary Lou has a personal commitment to professional development and is a member of professional associations. She contributes to the Indiana State Extension Association.

Colleen Hondl Gengler (Minnesota)

Colleen Gengler has been an educator with University of Minnesota

Extension for 34 years with a specialty in Family Relations. Colleen's most recent work has been co-developing a variety of materials for families with teens as well as an online course reaching professionals in 29 states and two other countries.

Jessye A. Goertz (Nebraska)

Jessye has served the clientele of Nebraska Extension since 1991. Nutrition is her focus area with a special emphasis on the childhood obesity issue. She serves on Governor Heineman's Health Promotion and Physical Activity Council and represents the University of Nebraska on the state Action for Healthy Kids team.

Marjorie C. LaFont (Illinois)

Marjorie LaFont is a Nutrition and Wellness Educator with University of Illinois Extension in Peoria County. Marjorie is a 35-year member of NEAFCS and IEAFCS. Marjorie provides leadership to the EFNEP and FNP programs. As a registered dietitian she is a preceptor for 3 dietetic internship programs.

Mary F. Longo (Ohio)

Mary Longo has a passion for Extension and the clientele she works with in Ohio. Her interests include parenting, child development and nutrition. She believes in the values of professional organizations and serves as a leader and mentor for others.

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CONTINUED EXCELLENCE AWARD

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**Sandra Kay Namken
(South Dakota)**

Sandra has worked extensively in the areas of Health and Wellness to better the quality of life for her clients of all ages. She assisted Medicare Part D clients to choose a plan to best meet their prescription needs and to reduce the amount of money spent on medications.

Susan Jane Neher (Indiana)

Educator for 28 1/2 years - Current specialty is Foods and Nutrition. Teach to adults and children nutrition programs; County Extension Director of three county staff; past state president of NEAFCS and served on national board

Joann Amelia Paschal (Kansas)

Through Joann Paschal's thirty year career in Extension she has been committed to forming collaborative partnerships with local organizations to create new opportunities for programming. Programming has centered on food safety, special diets, nutrition, housing and youth development. She actively pursued professional development opportunities that serve to enhance her skills.

Michelle Lynn Pride (Illinois)

Michelle Pride is the County Extension Director in Vermilion County, Illinois and a member since 1984. Her keen interest in community development and leadership helps her to motivate and enhance collab-

oration among diverse entities. She is especially known for her work with minority audiences.

Dianne Swanson (Nebraska)

Adolescent development and parenting are the focus of Dianne Swanson's programming. She has helped develop a strong team-driven county coalition; that is providing leadership, programming and services needed in the community. Dianne also has coordinated and taught the county Juvenile Diversion program for eight years, and provides court-mandated Guardianship training.

Debby Lynn Whiston (Missouri)

Debby Whiston has been the State Co-chair of the Building Strong Families team in Missouri from 1995-2004 and has taught the VITA Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program in two of her assigned counties. VITA volunteers provide free tax assistance and electronic filing to low-income, disabled, homebound, and English-as-a-second-language taxpayers.

EASTERN REGION

**Guendoline Brown
(West Virginia)**

Guen Brown, PhD provides leadership for WV Nutrition and Health programs including Dining with Diabetes, the Diabetes Symposium, and Germ City. In 2006, she implemented a new program - A New You: Health for Every Body. The WV Diabetes Education program received the 2005 Northeast Extension Director's Award of Excellence.

Jane K. Conroy (Maine)

Jane K. Conroy, Extension Educator with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Most recently, her program leadership focuses on financial literacy through the life cycle. She is currently doing research on what influences consumer buying in rural Maine. She authors a bi-monthly newsletter for individuals and families called Money \$ense.

Cassandra Sue Corridon (Maryland)

Extension has been “career of choice” for Cassandra Corridon since she was 12 years old and after twenty-three years, still is! Youth and family programs are her first love. Nutrition, health and safety, her focus with thousands of working demonstrations - classes, fairs, trainings, creative handwashing methodologies, train the trainers.

Mary Alice Gettings (Pennsylvania)

Mary Alice Gettings, a Nutrition and Food Safety Educator, is interested in nutrigenomics and the use of dietary supplements, along with diet, to treat and prevent disease. She has also been integral in leading the food safety Plan of Work in Pennsylvania in the area of statewide evaluation.

Sandra Parker Hall (Pennsylvania)

Sandra Parker Hall believes professional development collaborative partnerships are critical to meeting

the needs of clientele and providing cutting edge programs. Sandra continually develops innovative educational programs. Her works focuses on Professional development for child care providers and osteoporosis prevention. She continues to work to make life better in Pennsylvania.

Diane Elaine Mincher (Vermont)

Diane continues to be proactive in developing very successful nationally recognized nutrition and literacy programs including Food, Culture and Reading; Food, Fun, and Reading; plus Growing Connections, a garden-enhanced nutrition education program. Diane’s varied programming efforts have improved the quality of life for Vermonters.

SOUTHERN REGION

Brenda Grace Cockerham (Kentucky)

Brenda Cockerham has been committed to personally learning Family and Consumer topics throughout her 21 years in Extension. She gained a Master’s degree and has an ambition of testing a concept called “The Power of Community” where FCS topics are utilized to strengthen families in a community setting.

Mary Elizabeth Crisp (Florida)

Betsy Crisp serves as the only FCS agent in Pasco County, Florida (19 years). She received her B.S. and M.S. degrees from Florida State Uni-

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CONTINUED EXCELLENCE AWARD

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versity. She continually strives to develop herself professionally as well as assist and educate others. She has remained active in many professional organizations throughout her career.

LaVetta Anne Davis (Arkansas)

LaVetta has been a member of NEAFCS Arkansas Affiliate for 25 years serving on committees. She attends Professional Improvement conferences, meetings and in-service trainings. LaVetta gives leadership to grant programs in the area of financial management, nutrition, child-care, food safety and serves as a mentor to seven new FCS agents

Mary T. DeFoor (Tennessee)

Mary appreciates the learning and leadership opportunities that have been a part of her 30-year Extension career. She provides leadership for a newly established relationship curriculum for juvenile offenders and networks with community leaders in implementing this program. She has held several Tennessee affiliate board positions including President in 2006.

Pamela Joy Dooley (Kentucky)

Pam believes in the importance of improving professionally. She has attended eighteen state and sixteen national meetings. She provides training and encouragement for the development of local leaders. She is dedicated to lifelong learning as evi-

denced in her role as a presenter and participant in professional opportunities.

Alma Rene Harris (Mississippi)

Food Allergies are a major concern in today's society. Most of the time it affects children and babies. DayCare Providers need to know what are the foods that will likely cause an allergic reaction and what can be done to offset the reaction?

Patricia Brown Margolis (Kentucky)

Service and leadership are two words Pat uses to describe her more than 30 year career with the Cooperative Extension System. She has served in five positions in Kentucky, California and Tennessee. Involvement in Professional organizations has been a key factor in continued success helping local families.

Ginny Kay McCarthick (Oklahoma)

Ginny McCarthick's 17 year career has been in a rural county dividing responsibilities between 4-H, FCS and Rural Development. She has been instrumental in developing a Diabetes Support group which has expanded diabetes resources in her community. She has also developed programming for Adult and Youth Leadership.

Alice L. Pettitt (North Carolina)

Alice Pettitt has over thirty years experience with Cooperative Extension, but still enjoys learning and

staying up-to-date in her subject matter areas. She attends local, state, and national conferences to learn the latest information on food safety and foods and nutrition, and works to offer others professional development opportunities.

Mary L. Rhyne (Oklahoma)

Serving the Cooperative Extension Service for 28 years, Mary Rhyne has participated in numerous professional development activities and has conducted a number of educational programs involving partnerships in her county. Programming has included family science, family economics, health and nutrition, leadership, and community development issues.

Jacqueline D. Roseboro (North Carolina)

Jacqueline Roseboro demonstrates commitment to professional development of herself and others. Jacqueline believes that professional development is a lifelong process. As County Director, she encourages staff participation in professional development and secures funding which permits their participation. She has been active in NEAFCS at all levels.

Romona D. Thieme (Arkansas)

Romona D. Thieme has worked over 26 years. She has conducted many educational programs in the areas of nutrition education, financial management, character education and youth leadership. She partners with other agents in conducting classes

for child care professionals, EHC leader trainings, youth leadership programs and summer enrichment programs.

Jewel Langley Winslow (North Carolina)

Jewel feels married to her community - vowing to teach the rich, the poor, the sick, the healthy and not forsaking them in bad times. In 2006, she volunteered 1200 hours to Medicare Education, enrolled 390 individuals into a Part D Plan, and saved \$150,000 in prescription costs.

Rosalind L. Woodard (Tennessee)

Rosalind Woodard has served as 4-H Agent in Knox County, Tennessee for 33 years. The 4-H program includes FCS projects which focus on family, financial management, entrepreneurship and adult volunteerism. A strong financial program has been incorporated in 4-H urban animal, engineering and family and consumer sciences projects.

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CONTINUED EXCELLENCE AWARD

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WESTERN REGION

**Patricia Jean Aaron
(New Mexico)**

Patricia Aaron has worked as Extension Home Economist for 17 years for the NMSU Extension Service in Bernalillo County. Her main programming is in the nutrition and food safety areas. Patricia has served as President, Vice President and Treasurer for NMEAFCS. She is a well respected, professional educator.

Marilyn King Albertson (Utah)

A Family & Consumer Science Agent for 22 years, Marilyn's focus is teaching financial management to bankruptcy filers, low income households, Utah Saves enrollees and youth. First Time Homebuyer education is taught through classes and an online First Time Homebuyer Education Course created by her and two extension colleagues.

**Ann Elaine Diede
(Washington)**

Ann Diede, Extension Educator for 23 years, has conducted programs addressing timely parenting and family issues, including special efforts to reach Latino families and women involved in agriculture. She focuses on the development of community collaboratives and the training of others to plan and deliver educational programs.

**Extension Educator of the
Year Award**

**Theresa Cook Allan
(Tennessee)**

Theresa Allan is widely recognized as an excellent educator bringing expertise, creativity, and collaboration with multiple community partners to provide successful programs that have impacted a diverse clientele in Trousdale County. While maintaining these programs, she has participated in professional development and provided leadership at the state and national level.

Florence Hall Award

**Marilyn Bischoff, Beverly Healy,
Lyle Hansen, Kathee Tift,
Barbara Petty, Marsha Lockard,
Audrey Liddil, Carol Hampton,
Janice Stimpson, Sharlene
Woffinden, Rhea Lanting, Marnie
Spencer, Donna Gillespie, Luke
Erickson (Idaho)**

University of Idaho Extension educators facilitated twenty-six Long Term Care for You and Your Loved Ones seminars since 2003. More than 2,000 Idaho residents gained an understanding of long term care options, costs and how to plan for a "later life" of health and dignity.

Linda Combs (Kentucky)

"The New Family" To meet the needs of the "new" emerging family Extension along with community partners developed a front line attack plan. Extension offers

parenting and life-skills education throughout the county to meet “today’s” family overwhelming mental, physical, social and economic issues.

Sondra Lynn Ganus (Tennessee)

Camp Energize was a day camp developed to provide a positive, educational environment for underprivileged children, focusing on nutrition, health and fitness; giving youth the opportunity to expand their culinary skills, learn fun and exciting ways to become active, gain positive self esteem and become better leaders of the community.

Georgia Kight, Shari Farless, Kelly Canupp, Jewel Winslow, Anna Peele, Carmen Long, Shenile Ford, Candace Murray, Elizabeth Furlough, Yvonne Mullen, Melinda Houser, Lori Ivey, Deborah McGiffin, (North Carolina)

Medicare introduced the biggest change in 2006 with the new Medicare D Prescription Drug plans. Thirteen FCS Agents and volunteers in NC enrolled 3,837 Medicare beneficiaries in a Prescription Drug plan saving them approximately \$3,837,000. Extension FCS agents conducted 165 educational presentations reaching over 4100 adults.

Nancy Potter (New York)

A local psychotherapist’s practice had increasing numbers of young people with disordered eating diagnoses. Her colleague in nutrition counseling suggested contacting Cornell Cooperative Extension-Tompkins County about parent education that is key to effective treatment. Collaborating together with the Mental Health Association, they created the Parent Partner Program™ in 2004.

New Professional Award

Amanda McDanel (North Carolina)

Amanda McDanel’s contemporary programming in the areas of nutrition and wellness and child and family development delivers research based information in an experiential context-relevant manner. Highlighted programs include Good Grief: A Support Group for Grieving Children, Culinary Adventures, and Grossology: Enhancing Math and Science Activities in the Classroom.

Para-Professional Award

Melodie Lambert (Alabama)

Melodie Lambert, a nutrition educator working with limited-resource individuals, personifies an exemplary Extension paraprofessional on a daily basis. Ms. Lambert routinely gives of her talents and expertise to both to her clientele and her co-

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PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARD

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workers. Through her work, limited-resource families greatly benefit from her creative teaching methods, leadership and compassion.

PROGRAM AWARDS

Dean Don Felker Financial Management Award

Gayle Rose Martinez (Wisconsin)

Two years after the Alliance for Financial Literacy was formed, a survey of Alliance Board members indicated a belief that by working together they were able to make a greater impact. They implemented a variety of programs in the community including Adult Classes, Reality Stores and an America Saves Campaign.

Christine Olinsky, Jean Clements, Nancy Hudson (Ohio)

The Master Money Mentor Training-Manual and PowerPoint presentation are designed to train professionals working with individuals requesting help with money management issues. Participating staff / volunteers gain skills to work effectively with others on money management behaviors, spending plans, debt, financial organizational systems, resources, and measuring impact.

Mary W. Wells Diversity Award

Jan Baggarly, Peggy P. Bledsoe, Donna Cadwell, Bert Tilton (Georgia)

Operation EATERY (Educating And Training Each Restaurant Yearly), a community partnership developed using a grant, teaches food safety techniques to a low income, ethnically diverse population. This training is especially designed for the food handler with 170 participants receiving a certificate of completion for this six hour class.

Program Excellence Through Research Award

Barbara O'Neill (New Jersey), Jing Xiao (Arizona), John Grable (Kansas), Ruth Lytton (Virginia)

Rutgers Cooperative Extension developed four online financial self-assessment quizzes: Financial Fitness Quiz, Identity Theft Risk Assessment Quiz, Investment Risk Tolerance Quiz and Personal Resiliency Assessment Quiz. The quizzes provide scores and feedback to consumers and collect data for research about financial practices.

Joan Wages, Sarah Burkett, Stephanie Diehl, Elena Serrano, Julie Shelhamer (Virginia)

Impacts of the childhood overweight prevention program, Healthy Weights for Healthy Kids, were measured by

administering pre and post- tests to 319 youth participants. Results showed higher confidence, better attitudes and improved behaviors related to choosing healthy snacks, drinks and portion sizes, after the program.

Environmental Education Award

Elisa Shackelton, William Nobles, Wendy Rice, Kurt Jones, Karen Crumbaker, Sheila Barry, Irene Shonle, Karen Massey, Debbie Alpe, Jan Sennhenn, Rhonda Follman, Donna Leiss, Ken Tremblay, Doug Hall, Laura Au-Yeung, Gale Miller, Anne Zander (Colorado)

Extension Agents serving 19 Colorado counties collaboratively delivered radon education programs and encouraged residential radon testing. An estimated 139,000 residents were impacted by newspaper articles, radio PSA's, displays at county fairs, and/or 31 public programs. 1500 short-term and 85 long-term radon test kits were provided free to program participants.

Extension Housing Outreach Award

Marilyn K. Kooiker (Wisconsin)

Marilyn Kooiker, Burnett County, Wisconsin, Family Living Agent has collaborated with her local Habitat

for Humanity organization. She provides home-ownership and money management education to families selected for the Habitat program. In rural northwest Wisconsin, Kooiker has helped these low-income families become successful and responsible homeowners.

Early Childhood Child Care Training Award

Kathleen Hetzel, Joan Laurion, Sue Nagelkerk, Cheryl Rew Stapleton, Mary Roach, Tina Ginner (Wisconsin)

GOOD early care and education programs help children grow and learn, but GREAT programs strengthen families' commitment to child development. A new five-session "Connecting with Families" curriculum provides Extension educators with the outline, research-based materials, and activities to strengthen early care and education professionals' relationships with families.

Food Safety Award

Elizabeth Shephard, George Jackow, Jim Richardson (Florida)

The "Amazing Adventures of Super Hand" is a collaborative effort between Extension, the health department and the school system in Brevard County, in response to

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FOOD SAFETY AWARD

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Shigella outbreaks in schools. This program has successfully eliminated outbreaks and reduced other incidences relating to hand hygiene in Brevard County Schools.

Excellence in 4-H Afterschool Programming Award

Joann Lindsey Milam (Georgia)

Survivor Kids Camp, a month long summer camp, based on the popular CBS reality series Survivor, incorporates daily fitness challenges, teamwork, and nutrition. Parents also attend a 2-hour weekly session where highlights of the previous week's nutrition classes are taught along with menu planning and 30-minute meal preparation techniques.

Mary Joyce Sullivan (Kansas)

Grant County 4-Hers teach nutrition and literacy, through the Learn and Serve Grant they wrote, to preschoolers in an afterschool program. The 4-Hers gain experience in, writing and managing a grant, learning and teaching nutrition and passing on a love for books and reading to preschoolers.

Pamela Carol York (Kentucky)

Exploring Extension summer day camp was held to demonstrate the valuable programs offered by the Pulaski County Extension Service. Campers were given the opportunity to learn from the entire staff in such areas as crocheting, nutrition, food

preservation, woodworking, and natural resources and environment.

Healthy Lifestyles Education Grant

Carol Schwarz, Linda S. Boeckner, Ann M. Fenton, Jeanne Murray, Nancy Urbanec, Alice C. Henneman (Nebraska)

A Fitness Indulgence brochure/display will be developed to educate adults, age 50-70, on the importance of incorporating a total body fitness program into their lifestyles, and to increase their motivation by adding indulgences into their plan. The materials will be on websites and used with programs and health fairs.

COMMUNICATION

AWARDS

Newsletters

Catherine Lamp, Estella West, Jim Coats, Robin Walton – 1st Place (California)

First introduced in the 1980's Parent Express, a set of 15 age-paced parenting newsletters covering the first year of life, has been skillfully updated in content and look. Topics include child development, nutrition, health and safety, general infant care, and activities parents can use to stimulate their baby's development.

Margaret Malehorn, Jane A. Landis, Cheryl A. Miller, Mary Ann Oyler, Sandra Parker-Hall, Nina L. Redding, Nancy E. Rutch, Marcia E. Weber, Nancy R. Wiker, Marilyn Z. Jones, Terry A. Lopp – 2nd Place (Pennsylvania)

Living Well is a newsletter developed by the Capital Region Family and Consumer Sciences Team of Penn State Cooperative Extension and distributed to 6,000 families in the nine county region. Living Well provides timely, unbiased information on foods & nutrition, food safety, home environment, resource management and family life.

Christine Flood, Patricia Hammerschmidt, Anne Murphy, Kelly White – 3rd Place (Michigan)

TEAMTALK, the Michigan Team Nutrition (MTN) newsletter provides ideas and strategies to staff at enrolled MTN schools (K-12) and MSUE county offices to assist schools in partnering with community members and organizations to improve their school nutrition environment. TEAMTALK highlights nutrition education resources, schools' successes, and updates on nutrition-related events.

Radio

Christopher Sneed – 1st Place (Tennessee)

A series of three, thirty-second radio announcements was developed by Extension. Announcements were

designed to heighten the awareness of families concerning their need to increase savings while reducing debt. Radio announcements reached over 10,000 households in five southeast Tennessee counties. Accompanying financial management programming was attended by 41 participants.

Beth Gaydos, Mike Partin – 2nd Place (Ohio)

This late morning interview broadcast is aired weekly on six sister stations and reaches 100,000 listeners in a multi-county area of southeastern Ohio. Topics apply to a general audience and include practical tips or program announcements. This interview featured facts about trans fat, food sources, and ways to avoid it.

LaDell Emmons – 3rd Place (Oklahoma)

No one is prepared for Mother Nature in the form of an ice storm that placed over 50,000 in Southeast Oklahoma without power for 1-2 weeks. Live radio at the Emergency Management Post provided the extension service a rare opportunity to assist listeners in food safety, survival, & preparation.

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COMMUNICATION AWARDS

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Television

**June Puett, Donna Calhoun,
Chuck Denney, Doug Edlund – 1st
Place (Tennessee)**

This video highlights the local Tennessee Saves campaign efforts to creatively market financial literacy programs at a sports venue and has inspired campaigns across the country to replicate the program. It has been viewed by over 500,000 including viewers in all Tennessee television markets and several national conferences.

**Judy Branch, Gregg Mousley, Will
Mikell, Keith Silva – 2nd Place
(Vermont)**

Youth Financial Literacy video promotes the High School Financial Planning Program the National Endowment for Financial Education provides without charge to teachers, home-school parents and human service staff for financial literacy education. Cooperative efforts of the Jumpstart Coalition in education and public policy to achieve greater financial literacy are highlighted.

**Denise Contenenza – 3rd Place
(Pennsylvania)**

Seizing the opportunity is what this award winner did in developing her program and adapting it for television. "Overscheduled Families" was produced as a medical report to be delivered during the evening news, a time when busy families are more likely to be available for learning.

Written Press Releases

**Charlotte L. Richert, Donna
Pelkey, Raye Ann Jones – 1st
Place (Oklahoma)**

Gather Together emphasized success stories resulting from families spending time together at the dinner table. The FOCUS section of the Tulsa Community World featured the Community Nutrition Education Program and the Home and Community Education groups. The article highlighted tips for togetherness to help prevent the incidence of substance abuse.

**Margaret McAlpine – 2nd Place
(Florida)**

A community based education and outreach initiative about Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage (Medicare Part D). Utilizing laptop computers with wireless internet technology, the Nassau County FCS Agent helped seniors and the disabled with making informed choices about selecting a Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage plan that was right for them.

Nancy Stehulak – 3rd Place (Ohio)

Living Well is a weekly News Column published in the Northwest Signal, Napoleon, Ohios only daily paper. This column by Stehulak covers issues of Parenting, Family Financial Management and Family Food Issues. This column gave information about Setting Teen Limits as a supportive article to a parenting program in progress.

Educational Technology

Marnie Spencer, Laura L. Sant, Rhea Lanting – 1st Place (Idaho)

Meal Time in Less Time is a three-lesson program to teach individuals how to plan quick and healthy meals, shop to save time and money, and prepare healthy meals in less time. Evaluation results indicate that program participants increased healthy meal planning and preparation behaviors.

Patricia Faughn, Janice McCoy, Angela Wiley, Debbie McClellan, Diane Ryals, Sherry Rocha, Aaron Ebata, Gerri Peeples – 2nd Place (Illinois)

Your Young Child: Managing Challenging Early Stages is a 7-unit curriculum for use with parents and child care professionals. It addresses adult stress in managing normal yet challenging early child behaviors--crying, night waking, exploring, separation, choosy eating, toileting, and negativity. These seven behaviors have been associated with child abuse.

Jane Wolery, Millie Veltkamp, Marla Goodman, Jay Van Voast, Dan Clark, Wade Crouch, Wendy Wedum, Robb Wearley, Adele Stenson, Rhea Brutosky, Jamie Smith – 3rd Place (Montana)

Jane Wolery, MSU Teton County Extension Agent, and colleagues coordinated a technology retreat for Extension agents, specialists and staff. The retreat included training on a variety of software and updates on

the latest tech trends. Participants reported an increase in job efficiency as a result of the training.

Educational Curriculum Package

Rosie Allen, Katie Smallwood, Patty Poor – 1st Place (Kentucky)

Speedy Suppers is a quick meal education session that targets working moms. Quick meal recipes are demonstrated and tasted, while ideas to implement 2005 USDA Dietary Guidelines are discussed. This lecture/demonstration curriculum was developed by a team of three Kentucky FCS Agent/Educators and has reached nearly 5,000 individuals.

Eileen Krumbach, Andrea Nisley, Dr. John DeFrain, Lee Sherry, Ruth Vonderohe, Susan Brown, Carla Mahar, Dianne Swanson, Leanne M. Manning, Sandra D. Preston, Mary Ann Holland, Maureen Burson, LaDonna Werth – 2nd Place (Nebraska)

Guardianship training is a court-mandated educational program for newly appointed guardians focusing on understanding what a guardian is, responsibilities to the court and Ward, implementing good decision making and understanding financial responsibilities. The Nebraska Supreme Court and Bar Association and UNL Extension have been in Partnership for five years.

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EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM PACKAGE

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Glenice Johnson, Mary J. Anderson, Sharon M. Danes, Rebecca Hagen Jokela, Rosemary K. Heins, Susan E. Hooper, Phyllis Onstad, Cindy M. Petersen, Marlene S. Stum – 3rd Place (Minnesota)

Designed as one-hour work-site workshop for employees, curriculum package includes PowerPoint with teaching guide; handouts: organizing guide, household inventory, replacement instructions, action steps, “roadmap”, and resource links. Evaluation tools provide pre/post of workshop and 6-month follow-up. Marketing pieces include blurbs for employee newsletters and pay enclosures, posters and fact sheets.

Educational Publications

Sondra Parmer, Barbara Struempfer – 1st Place (Alabama)

The colorful Make Every Plate a Rainbow puzzle is a 4-inch round sphere with vivid illustrations aimed at imparting fruit and vegetable information. It is engaging through its colorful appearance, interactive through its ability to be manipulated and informative with its messages. The puzzles were distributed to 23,500 limited-resource adults.

Ellie McCann – 2nd Place (Minnesota)

The Teens and Meth fact sheet is one of the issues in the Teen Talk fact sheet series. Teen Talk fact

sheets are designed to help parents talk with teens about challenging topics. The hot topics are located on the University of Minnesota Extension Parenting Education Resources website at www.parenting.umn.edu.

Internet Education Technology

Jennifer Bentlejewski, Meredith Pearson, Lisa Lachenmayr, Connie Barnett, Karol Dyson, Jackie Gray, Lorraine Harley, Liat Mackey, Jean Austin, LaTasha Coleman, Madeleine Greene, Jane Kostenko, Lynn Little, Connie Metcalf, Naeemah Raqib, Sandi Roberts, Theresa Serio, Haylee Staruk, Crystal Terhune, Nancy Atkinson, Amy Billing, Robert Gold, Daniel Kessler, Sylvette LaTouche, Jing Tian, Sharon Desmond, Min Qi Wang, Donna Howard, Ellen Ternes, Phyllis McShane – 1st Place (Maryland)

To prevent chronic disease, the University of Maryland, College Park and Maryland Cooperative Extension initiated a health promotion intervention for Maryland’s limited resource populations. The Eat Smart, Be Fit, Maryland! web site (<http://www.eatsmart.umd.edu>) has helped 785 individuals to learn about healthy dietary and exercise behaviors.

Colleen Gengler, Kathleen A. Olson, Jodi Dworkin – 2nd Place (Minnesota)

“What’s New with Teens and their Families? Research Update for Professionals” is an online, short term, non-credit professional development course covering an overview of research in family systems, normative adolescent development, parenting styles, bi-directionality and agency. Over 200 professionals across the country have participated.

Linda Block, Robert Armstrong, Robin Harris, Sharon Hoelscher Day, Kay Hongu – 3rd Place (Arizona)

The website allows coordinators to implement the 16-week walking program. To evaluate success and benefits of the walking program, entry, exit, and tracking forms were developed to characterize the participants, track their physical activity habits, levels of energy, social interaction, and satisfaction with their community.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARDS

**Marketing Package Award
Lynn James, Margaret Malehorn, Laurie Welch, Matthew Kaplan, Dori Campbell, John Byrnes, Lois Killcoyne, Cynthia Javor, Michael Phillips, Judy Richardson, Mary Fusco (Pennsylvania)**

The Family Fitness program reached 211 students, 122 parents and 3142

educational contacts. Students grades 3-5 and their parents set and made healthy goals and significantly increased fruits, whole grains, willingness to try fruits and vegetables, physical activity, decreased high sugar and fat foods and improved family meals and communication.

Danielle Summers, Katherine Allen, Elaine Courtney, Mary E. Crisp, Monica Dawkins, Celia B. Hill, Chris Kilbride, Maisielin Ross, Mary Beth Salisbury, Elizabeth C. Shephard, Sharon Treen, Gayle O. Whitworth, Brenda Williams (Florida)

In an effort to increase awareness of agriculture’s economic impact, the Florida affiliate produced a cookbook featuring Florida’s agricultural commodities, Simply Florida: A Taste of Flavors from the Sunshine State. A variety of marketing techniques including news releases, flyers, exhibits, radio and television were used to reach over 1,000,000 consumers.

Community Partnership Award

Judy Berryhill, Mary DeFoor (Tennessee)

A Tennessee Judge contacted the Extension Service asking help for juveniles going through the court system. The Fitting It Together curriculum (covering communication, anger management, relationships)

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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD

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was developed. Juvenile offenders were court-ordered to attend the classes. Eighty juveniles attended the classes, NONE returned to the court system!

Mary Richmond (Kansas)

Mary Frances Richmond, Osage County, Kansas was instrumental in organizing a county-wide coalition targeting substance abuse prevention. She currently serves as chairman of the Board of Directors. The coalition has received \$500,000 in grant funds over seven years to conduct programs which have positively affected substance abuse trends.

**Beverly Shelby, Julia
Denise Wright
(Tennessee)**

To address a sensitive need to wage war on body odor, Weakley County FCS Agents, Beverly Shelby and Denise Wright developed a fun and less embarrassing personal hygiene program for youth. Through the personas of Major Pain and General Hygiene, the bod squad armed these young people with squeaky-clean advice.

**SDA Clean Homes...Safe
and Healthy Families
Program Award of
Excellence**

**Nancy Recker, Lois Clark
(Ohio)**

“Getting Rid of Your Midlife Clutter” utilized research results targeting Baby Boomers. Programming focused on dealing with personal clutter...how to manage, dispose of and store it. These action steps were designed to help participants reduce stress levels, have more energy and enhance relationships as a person successfully ages.

CENTRAL REGION FINALISTS



Professional Development Awards

EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Deborah Diane Sundem (South Dakota)

Deb Sundem has demonstrated a commitment to child care and parenting to meet clientele needs in South Dakota. Her program leadership and collaboration has promoted healthy families and positive community relations. Deb is dedicated to the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service motto - Creating Opportunities for a Lifetime.

FLORENCE HALL AWARD

Eileen Krumbach, Andrea Nisley, Dr. John DeFrain, Lee Sherry, Ruth Vonderohe, Susan Brown, Carla Mahar, Dianne Swanson, Leanne M. Manning, Mary Ann Holland, Sandra D. Preston, Maureen Burson, LaDonna Werth (Nebraska)

Guardianship training is a court-mandated educational program for newly appointed guardians focusing on understanding what a guardian is, responsibilities to the court and Ward, implementing good decision making and understanding financial responsibilities. The Nebraska Supreme Court, Bar Association and

UNL Extension have been in Partnership for five years.

NEW PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Rebecca Leonard (South Dakota)

Since the start of her Extension career in July 2004, Rebecca Leonard has enjoyed educating families in the area of personal finance. Assisting Medicare beneficiaries and their families in making educated decisions about prescription drug insurance has been one of her focuses in the past two years.

PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Kathy Embrey (Missouri)

Kathy Embrey actively involves children in learning healthy food and fitness choices. Kathy has worked as a Nutrition Program Assistant in Missouri for five years. Kathy makes an impact on students and teachers by being a healthy role model. Together, they make a commitment to healthier choices.

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Program Awards

DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AWARD

**Gayle Rose Martinez
(Wisconsin)**

Two years after the Alliance for Financial Literacy was formed, a survey of Alliance Board members indicated a belief that by working together they were able to make a greater impact. They implemented a variety of programs in the community including Adult Classes, Reality Stores and an America Saves Campaign.

**Christine Olinsky, Jean Clements,
Nancy Hudson (Ohio)**

The Master Money Mentor Training Manual and PowerPoint presentation are designed to train professionals working with individuals requesting help with money management issues. Participating staff / volunteers gain skills to work effectively with others on money management behaviors, spending plans, debt, financial organizational systems, resources, and measuring impact.

MARY W. WELLS DIVERSITY AWARD

**Phyllis Onstad, Patricia D. Olson,
Shirley Anderson-Porisch, Janene
Gilman, Antonio Alba, Gabriela
Burk, Jose Lamas, Memory
Roberts, Kris Anderson,
Sam Schuth (Minnesota)**

The Minnesota Latino Financial Liter-

acy Program is a collaborative effort of Minnesota Extension, the Corporation for National Service, and community partners. It addresses the unique, financial literacy needs of a growing Spanish-speaking population. Bi-lingual Program Assistants, working with Extension faculty, have reached over 2200 Spanish-speakers in a three year period.

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD-

**Cynthia Torppa
(Ohio)**

Parents must help children develop the skills necessary for life long success, yet parent and youth programs often exist in isolation. A Mother-Daughter retreat that integrates programming for both parents and youths was created. Findings indicate that all participants' communication skills were improved significantly and family relationships were enhanced.

EXTENSION HOUSING OUTREACH AWARD

**Marilyn K. Kooiker
(Wisconsin)**

Marilyn Kooiker, Burnett County, Wisconsin, Family Living Agent has collaborated with her local Habitat for Humanity organization. She provides home-ownership and money management education to families selected for the Habitat program. In rural northwest Wisconsin, Kooiker has helped these low-income fami-

lies become successful and responsible homeowners.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD CARE TRAINING AWARD

Kathleen Hetzel, Joan Laurion, Sue Nagelkerk, Cheryl Rew Stapleton, Mary Roach, Tina Ginner (Wisconsin)

GOOD early care and education programs help children grow and learn, but GREAT programs strengthen families' commitment to child development. A new five-session "Connecting with Families" curriculum provides Extension educators with the outline, research-based materials, and activities to strengthen early care and education professionals' relationships with families.

FOOD SAFETY AWARD

Alice Henneman, Joyce Jensen, Beverly Benes, Amy L. Peterson, Teresa Marie Gemar, Cindy Brison, Julane Hill, Tracy Kulm (Nebraska)

While teens/tweens may cook for themselves and/or their families, they often receive little food safety training. Cold Pizza for Breakfast PowerPoint was developed for reaching this group. It was offered to other educators via the Web in January 2006 and downloaded 3,434 times by year's end. Web feedback was positive.

EXCELLENCE IN 4-H AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

AWARD

Mary Joyce Sullivan (Kansas)

Grant County 4-Hers teach nutrition and literacy, through the Learn and Serve Grant they wrote, to preschoolers in an afterschool program. The 4-Hers gain experience in, writing and managing a grant, learning and teaching nutrition and passing on a love for books and reading to preschoolers.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

EDUCATION GRANT

Carol Schwarz, Linda S. Boeckner, Ann M. Fenton, Jeanne Murray, Nancy Urbanec, Alice C. Henneman (Nebraska)

A Fitness Indulgence brochure/display will be developed to educate adults, age 50-70, on the importance of incorporating a total body fitness program into their lifestyles, and to increase their motivation by adding indulgences into their plan. The materials will be on websites and used with programs and health fairs.

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Communication Awards

NEWSLETTERS

Christine Flood, Patricia Hammerschmidt, Anne Murphy, Kelly White – 1st Place (Michigan)

TEAMTALK, the Michigan Team Nutrition (MTN) newsletter provides ideas and strategies to staff at enrolled MTN schools (K-12) and MSUE county offices to assist schools in partnering with community members and organizations to improve their school nutrition environment. TEAMTALK highlights nutrition education resources, schools' successes, and updates on nutrition-related events.

Beth Gaydos, Cindy Oliveri, Monadine Matthey, Kathy Dodrill, Shari Gallup, Marie Economos, Sheila Maggard, Lydia Medeiros, Dan Remley, Susan Zies, Nancy Schaefer – 2nd Place (Ohio)

Dining with Diabetes newsletters are distributed to participants of the DWD class series in 25 Ohio counties. The objective of the newsletters is to keep participants engaged in diabetes management. Each issue addresses a variety of topics including research updates, fitness, nutrition, food preparation, food safety, and information for children.

RADIO

Beth Gaydos, Mike Partin – 1st Place (Ohio)

This late morning interview broadcast is aired weekly on six sister stations and reaches 100,000 listeners in a

multi-county area of southeastern Ohio. Topics apply to a general audience and include practical tips or program announcements. This interview featured facts about trans fat, foods sources, and ways to avoid it.

Pamela Peterson – 2nd Place (Wisconsin)

Creating a Culture that Cares for Kids, focused attention on the role community members play in positive youth development and was a first step toward building a healthier community that supports and protects children. Additional programs included community impact seminars to identify effective programs and services for children and families.

Donna Anderson – 3rd Place (North Dakota)

The Health and Home Watch is a 15-20 minute radio program that I do weekly Friday mornings on our KDAK 1600 a.m. Radio Station. The show has been on the air since October 2000. The submitted topic was on the issue of consumer charity fraud. The air date was 3/23/07.

WRITTEN PRESS RELEASES

Nancy Stehulak – 1st Place (Ohio)

Living Well is a weekly News Column published in the Northwest Signal, Napoleon, Ohio's only daily paper. This column by Stehulak covers issues of Parenting, Family Financial Management and Family Food

Issues. This column gave information about Setting Teen Limits as a supportive article to a parenting program in progress.

Jennifer Gibbs – 2nd Place (Michigan)

In an effort to provide Time Management and Organizational tips to parents state wide, an article was posted on-line to the MSU Extension FCS Quarterly Media Packet during the January - March 2007 quarter. This on-line resource is available to parents, educators, caregivers and the general public.

Sara Croymans – 3rd Place (Minnesota)

The press release “Youth Spending Power” discusses the amounts of money youth are spending and what they spend it on. The article looks at where youth get money and asks if youth affected by “affluenza”? The article concludes with some strategies for parents to help their children learn about money.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Patricia Faughn, Janice McCoy, Angela Wiley, Debbie McClellan, Diane Ryals, Sherry Rocha, Aaron Ebata, Gerri Peeples – 1st Place (Illinois)

Your Young Child: Managing Challenging Early Stages is a 7-unit curriculum for use with parents and child care professionals. It addresses adult stress in managing normal yet challenging early child behaviors--crying, night waking, exploring, separation,

choosy eating, toileting, and negativity. These seven behaviors been associated with child abuse.

Pamela Peterson – 2nd Place (Wisconsin)

Meth or Death, a Game of Personal Jeopardy, is a jeopardy-style PowerPoint program designed to educate teens about the physical, social and environmental consequences of methamphetamine manufacture and use. The program includes photographs found to have a preventative effect on youth and commercial breaks created by the Methamphetamine Awareness Project.

Linda Huyck – 3rd Place (Michigan)

Low income parents are the target audience for this Power Point presentation. It was designed to teach them how to help their children become good money managers. It has been seen by 177 participants and 92% say that they learned how to be more successful at doing so.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM PACKAGE

Eileen Krumbach, Andrea Nisley, Dr. John DeFrain, Lee Sherry, Ruth Vonderohe, Susan Brown, Carla Mahar, Dianne Swanson, eanne M. Manning, Sandra D. Preston, Mary Ann Holland, Maureen Burson, LaDonna Werth – 1st Place (Nebraska)

Guardianship training is a court-

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EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM PACKAGE

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mandated educational program for newly appointed guardians focusing on understanding what a guardian is, responsibilities to the court and Ward, implementing good decision making and understanding financial responsibilities. The Nebraska Supreme Court and Bar Association and UNL Extension have been in Partnership for five years.

Glenice Johnson, Mary J. Anderson, Sharon M. Danes, Rebecca Hagen Jokela, Rosemary K. Heins, Susan E. Hooper, Phyllis Onstad, Cindy M. Petersen, Marlene S. Stum – 2nd Place (Minnesota)

Designed as one-hour work-site workshop for employees, curriculum package includes PowerPoint with teaching guide; handouts: organizing guide, household inventory, replacement instructions, action steps, “roadmap”, and resource links. Evaluation tools provide pre/post of workshop and 6-month follow-up. Marketing pieces include blurbs for employee newsletters and pay enclosures, posters and fact sheets.

Patricia Faughn, Janice McCoy, Angela Wiley, Debbie McClellan, Diane Ryals, Sherry Rocha, Aaron Ebata, Gerri Peeples – 3rd Place (Illinois)

Your Young Child: Managing Challenging Early Stages is a 7-unit curriculum for use with parents and child care professionals. It addresses

adult stress in managing normal yet challenging early child behaviors--crying, night waking, exploring, separation, choosy eating, toileting, and negativity. These seven behaviors have been associated with child abuse.

EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Ellie McCann – 1st Place (Minnesota)

The Teens and Meth fact sheet is one of the issues in the Teen Talk fact sheet series. Teen Talk fact sheets are designed to help parents talk with teens about challenging topics. The hot topics are located on the University of Minnesota Extension Parenting Education Resources website at www.parenting.umn.edu.

Alice Henneman – 2nd Place (Nebraska)

30 MyPyramid Steps to a Healthier You was designed as a publication for use by educators to inform and positively affect clientele about MyPyramid dietary recommendations. It was distributed via a Web page where it received 23,474 hits the first year. Response was favorable with a variety of uses cited.

INTERNET EDUCATION

TECHNOLOGY

Colleen Gengler, Kathleen A. Olson, Jodi Dworkin – 1st Place (Minnesota)

“What’s New with Teens and their Families? Research Update for Professionals” is an online, short

term, non-credit professional development course covering an overview of research in family systems, normative adolescent development, parenting styles, bi-directionality and agency. Over 200 professionals across the country have participated.

Public Relations Awards

MARKETING PACKAGE AWARD

Minnell Tralle, Rose Allen, Colleen Gengler, Ellie McCann, Joanne Musich, Kathleen Olson, Patricia Stoppa, Joel Dickinson, Andrew Brinkma (Minnesota)

The Family Relations marketing materials include a brochure, display, impact handout and poster, and website. The purpose of these materials is to highlight the programs and products available through the work of the Family Relations Area of Expertise and to provide brief impact data of the major program initiatives.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD

Mary Richmond (Kansas)

Mary Frances Richmond, Osage County, Kansas was instrumental in organizing a county-wide coalition targeting substance abuse prevention. She currently serves as chairman of the Board of Directors. The coalition has received \$500,000 in grant funds over seven years to conduct programs which have positively affected substance abuse trends.

Eileen Krumbach, Andrea Nisley, Dr. John DeFrain, Lee Sherry, Ruth Vonderohe, Susan Brown, Carla Mahar, Dianne Swanson, Leanne M. Manning, Mary Ann Holland, Sandra D. Preston, Maureen Burson, LaDonna Werth (Nebraska)

Guardianship training is a court-mandated educational program for newly appointed guardians focusing on understanding what a guardian is, responsibilities to the court and Ward, implementing good decision making and understanding financial responsibilities. The Nebraska Supreme Court and Bar Association and UNL Extension have been in Partnership for five years.

SDA Clean Homes...Safe and Healthy Families Program Award of Excellence

Nancy Recker, Lois Clark (Ohio)

“Getting Rid of Your Midlife Clutter” utilized research results targeting Baby Boomers. Programming focused on dealing with personal clutter...how to manage, dispose of and store it. These action steps were designed to help participants reduce stress levels, have more energy and enhance relationships as a person successfully ages.

EASTERN REGION FINALISTS



Professional Development Awards

FLORENCE HALL AWARD

Nancy Potter (New York)

A local psychotherapist's practice had increasing numbers of young people with disordered eating diagnoses. Her colleague in nutrition counseling suggested contacting Cornell Cooperative Extension-Tompkins County about parent education that is key to effective treatment. Collaborating together with the Mental Health Association, they created the Parent Partner Program™ in 2004.

Nancy Wiker, Francis Alloway, Barbara Bartley, Shirley Bixby, Karen Bracey, Dorothy Bromley, Andrea Bressler, Dori Campbell, Marilyn Corbin, Katherine DiGiuseppe, Katherine French, Debra Gregory, Nancy Grotevant, Cathy Guffey, Elise Gurgevich, Julie Haines, Sandra Parker Hall, Cathy Harrington, Lynn James, Cindy Javor, Darlene Jury, Lois Killcoyne, Jane Landis, Lynda Lueckstoner, Sharon McDonald, Janet McDougall, Margaret Malehorn, Cheryl Miller, Dawn Olson, Mary Ann Oyler, Christine Orrson, Judy Richardson, Jeannie Richlin, Janice Ronan, Nancy Stevens, Fay

Strickler, Janice Stoudnour, Karen Thomas, Melissa Tomasick, Carole Toubakaris, Beth Van Horn, Marcia Weber, Carolyn Wisenbach, Phyllis Wright, Nancy Yergin (Pennsylvania)

Family Living Educators worked to offer StrongWomen, a community based strength training and nutrition program, in Pennsylvania's communities to improve muscle strength and bone health to reduce the risk of osteoporosis. The program has made a significant difference in the health, vitality and wellbeing of over 3600 participants.

NEW PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Sue Flanagan (West Virginia)

By networking with community health and education professionals, Sue Johnson was instrumental in promoting Extension programs and developing the West Virginia Kids in Action project. This effort seeks to reduce childhood obesity by increasing children's knowledge of the positive benefits of good nutrition and physical activity.

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD

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PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Joan McEnrue (Pennsylvania)

As a Para-Professional Nutrition Education Advisor for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program, Joan McEnrue has provided nutrition education for over 30 years for the low income residents raising children, and the youth of Lehigh County, PA. Joan's impact shows her strong dedication to her clients.

Program Awards

DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL

MANAGEMENT AWARD

Barbara Henza, Ann Gifford (New York)

The Empower New York program was developed by Cornell Cooperative Extension to provide financial management and energy use management education to low income utility customers in upstate New York. The program consists of three two-hour workshops focusing on basic money management, credit use and energy conservation.

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

Rutgers Cooperative Extension created Money Talk to address unique financial education needs of women. It consists of two components: a 192-page book and an accompanying series of 5 classes. Money Talk program materials have been used

by Extension Agents in other states and adapted for an online course in Iowa.

MARY W. WELLS DIVERSITY

AWARD

Mary Alice Gettings, Roxanne Price, Deanna Behring, Nancy Crago, Nancy Kadwill, Leon Ressler, Robin Rex, Fay Strickler (Pennsylvania)

Extension Reaching Out to Multicultural Communities: At Home and Abroad was a workshop that helped to build the skills of extension educators, specialists, and administrators by strengthening their ability to develop programming and activities relevant to the global realities of their local communities. The workshop attracted 225 Extension personnel.

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE

THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD

Barbara O'Neill (New Jersey), Jing Xiao (Arizona), John Grable (Kansas), Ruth Lytton (Virginia)

Rutgers Cooperative Extension developed four online financial self-assessment quizzes: Financial Fitness Quiz, Identity Theft Risk Assessment Quiz, Investment Risk Tolerance Quiz and Personal Resiliency Assessment Quiz. The quizzes provide scores and feedback to consumers and collect data for research about financial practices.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD
CARE TRAINING AWARD**

**Susan Giachero
(Pennsylvania)**

Workshops on the Move, a 9 hour training day for Childcare Directors, included four trainings in three states! In addition to the information gained from the trainings, the contacts made with Scholastic in New York resulted in further literacy training being delivered to childcare providers in Berks County.

Communication Awards

NEWSLETTERS

**Margaret Malehorn, Jane A. Landis, Cheryl A. Miller, Mary Ann Oyler, Sandra Parker-Hall, Nina L. Redding, Nancy E. Rutch, Marcia E. Weber, Nancy R. Wiker, Marilyn Z. Jones, Terry A. Lopp
(Pennsylvania)**

Living Well is a newsletter developed by the Capital Region Family and Consumer Sciences Team of Penn State Cooperative Extension and distributed to 6,000 families in the nine county region. Living Well provides timely, unbiased information on foods & nutrition, food safety, home environment, resource management and family life.

RADIO

**Judy Branch – 1st Place
(Vermont)**

This financial literacy PSA discusses credit card savvy and how to get

more information from local Extension offices and a VT Jumpstart Coalition Conference for teachers and parents. The WDEV radio announcer gives the introduction (music, etc.) for Extension weekly PSA's during the broadcasts from central Vermont.

TELEVISION

**Judy Branch, Gregg Mousley, Will Mikell, Keith Silva – 1st Place
(Vermont)**

Youth Financial Literacy video promotes the High School Financial Planning Program the National Endowment for Financial Education provides without charge to teachers, home-school parents and human service staff for financial literacy education. Cooperative efforts of the Jumpstart Coalition in education and public policy to achieve greater financial literacy are highlighted.

**Denise Contenenza – 2nd Place
(Pennsylvania)**

Seizing the opportunity is what this award winner did in developing her program and adapting it for television. "Overscheduled Families" was produced as a medical report to be delivered during the evening news, a time when busy families are more likely to be available for learning.

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COMMUNICATION AWARDS

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Madeleine Greene, Susan Ellerbee, Steve Hannan – 3rd Place (Maryland)

The Fine Print targets consumer topics using expert guests. The co-hosts use locational resources to cover consumer topics from recalls to dollars and sense. Airing 28 times monthly for 840 broadcast minutes and it has been recognized by the National Association of Consumer Affairs Administrators with the excellence award.

WRITTEN PRESS RELEASES

Barbara O'Neill – 1st Place (New Jersey)

A monthly health finance column is written by the candidate for the New Jersey Herald. The column submitted for the award described good health as a resource for wealth-building. References are made to Rutgers Cooperative Extension resources. The column, published in the Sunday edition, reached about 60,000 consumers.

Marilyn Sullivan, Karen Blass, Claudia Boozer-Blasco, Nancy Bradford-Sisson, Sue Buteau, Sharon Cowen, Ann Hamilton, Gail Kennedy, Deborah Maes, Alice Mullen, Ellen Rondina – 2nd Place (New Hampshire)

Raising an Adult is a monthly column appearing in Parenting NH magazine by UNH Cooperative Extension Family and Consumer

educators. Parents are encouraged to take a future-oriented approach to child-rearing. While topics provide parents with information for immediate use, they are reminded of the long-term goal of raising competent adults.

Theresa Christine Mayhew—3rd Place (New York)

Family economics and resource management is a program area that continues to generate keen interest in Theresa's predominantly rural county. This personal column encourages consumers to take a seasonal, all-inclusive approach to saving money, time and energy as the heating season and end of year holidays approach.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Crystal Terhune, Megan O'Neil-Haight (Maryland)

Understanding Your Credit Report is a PowerPoint Presentation designed to empower diverse audiences to monitor and manage credit proactively. Participants are taught how to maximize their credit potential, including building good credit and monitoring for identity theft. Adapted from MoneyWi\$e, a financial education project of Consumer Action and Capital One.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM

PACKAGE

Diane Mincher – 1st Place (Vermont)

A nutrition education program for

pre-school through grade two that uses picture books to learn about food and different cultures. A series of six lessons highlights what children eat around the world. Lessons include a take-home activity sheet, recipes, and a parent newsletter plus supplemental activities.

Nancy Wiker, Sandra Hall, Marcia Weber, Judy Richardson, Stacey Hutchison Miscisin – 2nd Place (Pennsylvania)

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

Daryl Minch – 3rd Place (New Jersey)

Living With Food Allergies addresses the increasing issue of food allergies. It includes a power point 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.

INTERNET EDUCATION

TECHNOLOGY

Jennifer Bentlejewski, Meredith Pearson, Lisa Lachenmayr, Connie Barnett, Karol Dyson, Jackie Gray, Lorraine Harley, Liat Mackey, Jean Austin, LaTasha Coleman, Madeleine Greene, Jane Kostenko, Lynn Little, Connie Metcalf, Naeemah Raqib, Sandi Roberts, Theresa Serio, Haylee Staruk, Crystal Terhune, Nancy Atkinson, Amy Billing, Robert Gold, Daniel Kessler, Sylvette LaTouche, Jing Tian, Sharon Desmond, Min Qi Wang, Donna Howard, Ellen Ternes, Phyllis McShane – 1st Place (Maryland)

To prevent chronic disease, the University of Maryland, College Park and Maryland Cooperative Extension initiated a health promotion intervention for Maryland's limited resource populations. The Eat Smart, Be Fit, Maryland! web site (<http://www.eatsmart.umd.edu>) has helped 785 individuals to learn about healthy dietary and exercise behaviors.

Nancy Stevens, David J. Suchanic – 2nd Place (Pennsylvania)

The "Solution Source" is a web-based program designed to give consumers quick and simple answers to everyday questions. It allows access to research-based information 24/7. Since its completion in August 2006, the program has reached over 36,000

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COMMUNICATION AWARDS

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people on the web and thousands more through newspaper columns.

Public Relations Awards

MARKETING PACKAGE AWARD

Lynn James, Margaret Malehorn, Laurie Welch, Matthew Kaplan, Dori Campbell, John Byrnes, Lois Killcoyne, Cynthia Javor, Michael Phillips, Judy Richardson, Mary Fusco (Pennsylvania)

The Family Fitness program reached 211 students, 122 parents and 3142 educational contacts. Students grades 3-5 and their parents set and made healthy goals and significantly increased fruits, whole grains, willingness to try fruits and vegetables, physical activity, decreased high sugar and fat foods and improved family meals and communication.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

AWARD

Mary Ellen Conn, Dana Cook, Diane Meadows, Lisa Mitchell, Allison Nichols, Terrill Smith, Linda Waybright (West Virginia)

A grassroots mini-grant helps establish community-based marriage and relationship education initiatives. West Virginia University Extension Service established a model to build the capacity of communities to implement the Healthy Families-Healthy Children Initiative. The Initiative provides training and support for participation in regional and

statewide healthy marriage and family programs.

Laurie Weinreb-Welch (Pennsylvania)

The program was designed for uninsured/underinsured diabetics that included education on proper self foot exam procedures, the importance of foot screenings as part of preventative health care routines to reduce lower extremity amputations. It included a public awareness campaign and referrals for those diagnosed with foot ailments.



Fellowships

GREENWOOD FELLOWSHIP

Lisa Tucker Gilmore (Arkansas)

Health plays an integral role in quality of life, especially when there is a lack of it. This award will be used to pursue a Doctorate in Public Health Leadership from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, better equipping her to help Arkansans improve quality of life and well-being.

GRACE FRYSSINGER

FELLOWSHIP

Kathleen Roesel Byrnes (Kentucky)

In an effort to reach more of the 150,000+ citizens of Kenton County, Kentucky, Kathy utilized this grant for expenses incurred while visiting Extension personnel in Nebraska and other states to learn first hand how to design a better web education effort and manage it on a regular basis.

Professional Development Awards

EXTENSION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Theresa Cook Allan (Tennessee)

Theresa Allan is widely recognized as an excellent educator bringing expertise, creativity, and collaboration with multiple community partners to provide successful programs that have impacted a diverse clientele in Trousdale County. While maintaining these programs, she has participated in professional development and provided leadership at the state and national level.

FLORENCE HALL AWARD

Linda Combs (Kentucky)

“The New Family” To meet the needs of the “new” emerging family Extension along with community partners developed a front line attack plan. Extension offers parenting and life-skills education throughout the county to meet “today’s” family overwhelming mental, physical, social and economic issues.

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS*continued from page 47***FLORENCE HALL AWARD****Sondra Lynn Ganus (Tennessee)**

Camp Energize was a day camp developed to provide a positive, educational environment for underprivileged children, focusing on nutrition, health and fitness; giving youth the opportunity to expand their culinary skills, learn fun and exciting ways to become active, gain positive self esteem and become better leaders of the community.

Georgia Kight, Shari Farless, Kelly Canupp, Jewel Winslow, Anna Peele, Carmen Long, Shenile Ford, Candace Murray, Elizabeth Furlough, Yvonne Mullen, Melinda Houser, Lori Ivey, Deborah McGiffin, (North Carolina)

Medicare introduced the biggest change in 2006 with the new Medicare D Prescription Drug plans. Thirteen FCS Agents and volunteers in NC enrolled 3,837 Medicare beneficiaries in a Prescription Drug plan saving them approximately \$3,837,000. Extension FCS agents conducted 165 educational presentations reaching over 4100 adults.

Diana Doggett (Kentucky)

The goal of Healthy Choices Summer Camp program was to provide local programming relative to local, state and national nutrition/physical activity initiatives. An eight week youth camp and parent workshops were

conducted in 2006. Healthy Choices Summer Camp was a community/agency partnership resulting in measurable knowledge and changed practices.

NEW PROFESSIONAL AWARD**Amanda McDanel (North Carolina)**

Amanda McDanel's contemporary programming in the areas of nutrition and wellness and child and family development delivers research based information in an experiential context-relevant manner. Highlighted programs include Good Grief: A Support Group for Grieving Children, Culinary Adventures, and Grossology: Enhancing Math and Science Activities in the Classroom.

PARA-PROFESSIONAL AWARD**Melodie Lambert (Alabama)**

Melodie Lambert, a nutrition educator working with limited-resource individuals, personifies an exemplary Extension paraprofessional on a daily basis. Ms. Lambert routinely gives of her talents and expertise to both to her clientele and her co-workers. Through her work, limited-resource families greatly benefit from her creative teaching methods, leadership and compassion.

Program Awards

DEAN DON FELKER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AWARD

**Beverly Samuel, Debra J. Foster
(Virginia)**

Financial literacy is a major issue facing youth in the nation. Reality Store, a three hour financial simulation, was utilized to increase knowledge of 2,825 students in Loudoun County, Virginia regarding making wise financial choices, budgeting, decision-making and career planning. The Reality Store model can be replicated nationwide.

MARY W. WELLS DIVERSITY AWARD

**Jan Baggaly, Peggy P. Bledsoe,
Donna Cadwell, Bert Tilton
(Georgia)**

Operation EATERY (Educating And Training Each Restaurant Yearly), a community partnership developed using a grant, teaches food safety techniques to a low income, ethnically diverse population. This training is especially designed for the food handler with 170 participants receiving a certificate of completion for this six hour class.

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD

**Debbie Still, Romona Thieme,
Ben Rutherford, Jim Thieme,
Dale Poag (Arkansas)**

TnT - Teens and Teams Exploding into Leadership, a leadership work-

shop that taught youth to work together as a team; communication, decision making, learning relationships, management and understanding self. A major impact was that a special needs youth volunteered to introduce a speaker at the banquet and was successful.

**Joan Wages, Sarah Burkett,
Stephanie Diehl, Elena Serrano,
Julie Shelhamer (Virginia)**

Impacts of the childhood overweight prevention program, Healthy Weights for Healthy Kids, were measured by administering pre and post- tests to 319 youth participants. Results showed higher confidence, better attitudes and improved behaviors related to choosing healthy snacks, drinks and portion sizes, after the program.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD

**Martha Pile, Sheila Settles
(Tennessee)**

The Case of Putting Mystery in Poison Education. Holmes and Watson build creative methods to train community leaders. Lead and Mercury poison is no longer a mystery for nine Tennessee Counties. Brochures, PowerPoint, evaluation and leaders guide with five Lead and Mercury case studies to be solved.

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PROGRAM AWARDS*continued from page 49***EARLY CHILDHOOD CHILD****CARE TRAINING AWARD****Ashlee Rzeczycki, Myra Braden,
Jan Dougan, Melanie Bealmear,
Judy Burns, Amanda Hardy,
Katie Englert (Kentucky)**

In four contiguous counties, the Family Consumer Sciences Extension agents with each county's Early Childhood Council conducted Child Care trainings for forty-four centers. As a result of the trainings, more centers are serving more fruits and vegetables, are conducting more physical activities, and children are trying more new foods.

FOOD SAFETY AWARD**Elizabeth Shephard, George Jack-
ow, Jim Richardson (Florida)**

The "Amazing Adventures of Super Hand" is a collaborative effort between Extension, the health department and the school system in Brevard County, in response to Shigella outbreaks in schools. This program has successfully eliminated outbreaks and reduced other incidences relating to hand hygiene in Brevard County Schools.

**EXCELLENCE IN 4-H AFTER-
SCHOOL PROGRAMMING****AWARD****Joann Lindsey Milam (Georgia)**

Survivor Kids Camp, a month long summer camp, based on the popular

CBS reality series Survivor, incorporates daily fitness challenges, team work, and nutrition. Parents also attend a 2-hour weekly session where highlights of the previous week's nutrition classes are taught along with menu planning and 30-minute meal preparation techniques.

Cyndy Mondelus (Florida)

Childhood obesity has become a serious health concern for the American youth. As a result, agencies have worked tirelessly to develop intervention strategies. The Orange County Healthy Kids Partnership is an alliance of ten agencies, local and private, that provides the Fitness and Nutrition (F.A.N) Club youth afterschool program.

Pamela Carol York (Kentucky)

Exploring Extension summer day camp was held to demonstrate the valuable programs offered by the Pulaski County Extension Service. Campers were given the opportunity to learn from the entire staff in such areas as crocheting, nutrition, food preservation, woodworking, and natural resources and environment.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES**EDUCATION GRANT****Terrie Treadway, Shirlye
Hopkins, LaVetta Davis,
Linda Sims (Arkansas)**

Four Family and Consumer Sciences agents in Arkansas plan on implementing nutrition and healthy

lifestyles programs emphasizing living actively and eating in normal and healthy ways in five school districts involving 7,827 students. Parents will be reached through student newsletters and parent-teacher conferences to change family eating and activity practices.

Communication Awards

NEWSLETTERS

Connie Greiner – 1st Place (Tennessee)

Purpose: • Inform/educate FCE members and families. • Over 200 individuals reached regularly • Newsletters extended into hands-on lessons • Results - members reported positive behavioral changes. Resources: • UT Extension, USDA and various healthcare websites • Extension FCS Specialist's written publications.

Lexie McGrane, Margaret Jover, Katie Phillips – 2nd Place (Texas)

In many Texas counties, senior citizens comprise the fastest growing segment of county population. As this growth continues, there is an ongoing need for Extension to provide research-based information of importance to seniors. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide this information to seniors in Denton and Kaufman counties.

Julie England, Deborah R. Boulware – 3rd Place (Florida)

Lake Reflections is the quarterly general interest FCS newsletter of Lake County, Florida. The newsletter serves as an educational and marketing tool for Extension. Articles on seasonal and timely topics in health, nutrition, resource management and family relationships are the primary content. Each issue also promotes a Florida-grown agricultural product.

RADIO

Christopher Sneed – 1st Place (Tennessee)

A series of three, thirty-second radio announcements was developed by Extension. Announcements were designed to heighten the awareness of families concerning their need to increase savings while reducing debt. Radio announcements reached over 10,000 households in five southeast Tennessee counties. Accompanying financial management programming was attended by 41 participants.

LaDell Emmons – 2nd Place (Oklahoma)

No one is prepared for Mother Nature in the form of an ice storm that placed over 50,000 in Southeast Oklahoma without power for 1-2 weeks. Live radio at the Emergency Management Post provided the extension service a rare opportunity to assist listeners in food safety, survival, & preparation.

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COMMUNICATION AWARDS

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**Carmen Long – 3rd Place
(North Carolina)**

Busy families today are faced with the challenges of eating healthy foods and making time to exercise. Listeners learn positive ways to help their families Eat Smart and Move More on Extension Today. This bi-weekly educational outreach tool has an estimated audience of 199,000 in a four county listening area.

TELEVISION

**June Puett, Donna Calhoun,
Chuck Denney, Doug Edlund –
1st Place (Tennessee)**

This video highlights the local Tennessee Saves campaign efforts to creatively market financial literacy programs at a sports venue and has inspired campaigns across the country to replicate the program. It has been viewed by over 500,000 including viewers in all Tennessee television markets and several national conferences.

**Joy Buffalo – 2nd Place
(Arkansas)**

Payday Loans Don't Pay poster and matching magnets showing various types of credit, interest rates, borrowing periods, and costs, were visuals used in addressing a viewing audience on the ABC Affiliate KATV Channel 7 in Little Rock Arkansas. Viewers requesting more information

received printed information and the 4x 6 magnet.

**Cyndy Mondelus, Beth Shephard,
Rita Law-McCumber, Julie Eng-
land, Dean Bodager, Mirna
Chamorro, Peggy Booth, George
R. Jackow Sr., Beverly Cauthan,
Faye Bronner, Gigi Rivadeneyra,
Jeanette Medina, Doris Watson –
3rd Place (Florida)**

Central Florida Food Safety Education Partnership (CFFSEP) is a team of government agencies partnering to educate the public about food safety using various delivery methods. Orange TV Holiday Cafe was a television broadcast CFFSEP used to educate the public with steps to avoid acquiring food-borne illnesses over the holiday season.

WRITTEN PRESS RELEASES

**Charlotte L. Richert, Donna
Pelkey, Raye Ann Jones – 1st
Place (Oklahoma)**

Gather Together emphasized success stories resulting from families spending time together at the dinner table. The FOCUS section of the Tulsa Community World featured the Community Nutrition Education Program and the Home and Community Education groups. The article highlighted tips for togetherness to help prevent the incidence of substance abuse.

**Margaret McAlpine – 2nd Place
(Florida)**

A community based education and outreach initiative about Medicare

Prescription Drug Coverage (Medicare Part D). Utilizing laptop computers with wireless internet technology, the Nassau County FCS Agent helped seniors and the disabled with making informed choices about selecting a Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage plan that was right for them.

Lexie McGrane – 3rd Place (Texas)

Recent studies indicate that nearly two-third of seniors do not eat a balanced diet or consume whole grains in amounts recommended by the USDA. This written press release provided information about the importance of whole grains, encouraged seniors to try whole grain products, and provided simple recipe suggestions.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Martha Maddox – 1st Place (Florida)

Americans consume 3-4 times the amount of sodium they need. Goodbye Sodium was designed to educate individuals about hidden sodium in their diets, amounts of sodium needed and ways to cut sodium. Presentation has been used at 92 programs to 5,892 individuals. 2,562 individuals reduced sodium in their diets.

Kenna Knight – 2nd Place (Kentucky)

“Why Should I Talk To My Kids about Drugs” is an awareness and educational presentation given

throughout our community and presented by our “Champions for a Drug-free Pendleton County” coalition. Preventing the usage of alcohol, tobacco, other drug use and violence among youth in Pendleton County, is our primary focus.

Maryellen Garrison – 3rd Place (Kentucky)

The program is designed to increase public awareness of the potential for a pandemic flu, to promote preparation for, and to minimize preventable consequences. Includes teaching plan, Power Point, overheads, publications, leader’s guide, activities, evaluation and disc which includes copies of the materials using Microsoft Word.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM PACKAGE

Rosie Allen, Katie Smallwood, Patty Poor – 1st Place (Kentucky)

Speedy Suppers is a quick meal education session that targets working moms. Quick meal recipes are demonstrated and tasted, while ideas to implement 2005 USDA Dietary Guidelines are discussed. This lecture/demonstration curriculum was developed by a team of three Kentucky FCS Agent/Educators and has reached nearly 5,000 individuals.

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EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM PACKAGE

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Maci Flautt, Linda Breazeale, Sylvia Byrd, Jane Clary, Garen Evans, Brent Fountain, Natasha Haynes, Sharon A. Haynes, Julia Heard, Randy Loper, Steve McCorkle, Micheal Newman, Pat Owen, Katherine Parman, Melanie Pollan, Pamela Redwine, Melissa Rhodus, Liz Sadler, Sonita Singh, Peggy Walker, Judith Ward, Rachel Welborn, Sara Woolfolk, Linda Wilemon, Nancy Williams, Ann Twiner, Kimberly Russ-Smith, Bonnie Carew, Donna Cliett, Paula Threadgill, Romona Edge, Rosemary Tindle – 2nd Place (Mississippi)

Mississippi in Motion, a twelve-week comprehensive curriculum targeting adults 18 years or older, is designed to educate participants on improving their physical activity levels and eating habits. The curriculum, created by a team of Mississippi State University Extension Service health and nutrition area agents, is implemented through weekly educational sessions.

Marilyn Sebesta – 3rd Place (Texas)

Through participation in the Fit Kidz! Program, over 500 5th-graders reduced their consumption of unhealthy foods, increased their consumption of healthier foods, increased the amount of time spent on desirable physical activities, and decreased the amount of time spent on sedentary activities such as

watching TV and playing video games.

EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Sondra Parmer, Barbara Struempfer – 1st Place (Alabama)

The colorful Make Every Plate a Rainbow puzzle is a 4-inch round sphere with vivid illustrations aimed at imparting fruit and vegetable information. It is engaging through its colorful appearance, interactive through its ability to be manipulated and informative with its messages. The puzzles were distributed to 23,500 limited-resource adults.

INTERNET EDUCATION

TECHNOLOGY

Maryellen Garrison, Jane Proctor, Sheila Fawbush, Allison Lewis, Ruth Chowning, Nelda Moore, Valerie Holland, Elizabeth Buckner – 1st Place (Kentucky)

This electronic newsletter which targets members of the busy workforce was developed to make an inroad into this large group of computer literate clientele who simply do not have the time to attend traditional homemaker clubs or special interest programs and yet who need educational Family and Consumer Science information.

Public Relations Award

MARKETING PACKAGE AWARD

Theresa Howard, DeBorah Winston, Katie Alexander, Joan Martin, Jennifer Bridge, Elizabeth Kingsland, Carolyn Goodman, Deborah Thompson, Kay Kennedy (Kentucky)

Area Extension Homemakers indicated they wanted classes offered on home furnishings. FCS agents wanted to try a new approach to leader training classes. By planning a one day Home D_cor Expo, we could bring in top notch speakers and exhibits and promote the Cooperative Extension Service to the public.

Danielle Summers, Katherine Allen, Elaine Courtney, Mary E. Crisp, Monica Dawkins, Celia B. Hill, Chris Kilbride, Maisielin Ross, Mary Beth Salisbury, Elizabeth C. Shephard, Sharon Treen, Gayle O. Whitworth, Brenda Williams (Florida)

In an effort to increase awareness of agriculture's economic impact, the Florida affiliate produced a cookbook featuring Florida's agricultural commodities, *Simply Florida: A Taste of Flavors from the Sunshine State*. A variety of marketing techniques including news releases, flyers, exhibits, radio and television were used to reach over 1,000,000 consumers.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

AWARD

Judy Berryhill, Mary DeFoor (Tennessee)

A Tennessee Judge contacted the Extension Service asking help for juveniles going through the court system. The Fitting It Together curriculum (covering communication, anger management, relationships) was developed. Juvenile offenders were court-ordered to attend the classes. Eighty juveniles attended the classes, NONE returned to the court system!

Parico Osby, Bridgette F. Griffin, Wilbert J. Golden, Wanda H. Carpenter (Alabama)

Due to the health care needs and challenges of a growing older adult population, agencies and volunteers are needed to both train and supplement families providing respite care. The Caring To Help Others program offers basic in home care and a better quality of life for those in need.

SDA Clean Homes...Safe and Healthy Families Program Award of Excellence

Parico Osby (Alabama)

Due to a growing number of people requiring respite care, at the request of the Alabama Department of Public

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**SDA CLEAN HOMES...SAFE AND
HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAM
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

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Health, I conducted a two hour satellite training for Home Health Aides and Home Attendants employed to provide this service. Training emphasized housekeeping, meal preparation, personal care and pest control management.

Beverly Shelby, Julia Denise Wright (Tennessee)

To address a sensitive need to wage war on body odor, Weakley COUNTY FCS Agents, Beverly Shelby and Denise Wright developed a fun and less embarrassing personal hygiene program for youth. Through the personas of Major Pain and General Hygiene, the bod squad armed these young people with squeaky-clean advice.

WESTERN REGION FINALISTS



Professional Development Awards

FLORENCE HALL AWARD

Marilyn Bischoff, Beverly Healy, Lyle Hansen, Kathee Tiftt, Barbara Petty, Marsha Lockard, Audrey Liddil, Carol Hampton, Janice Stimpson, Sharlene Woffinden, Rhea Lanting, Marnie Spencer, Donna Gillespie, Luke Erickson (Idaho)

University of Idaho Extension educators facilitated twenty-six Long Term Care for You and Your Loved Ones seminars since 2003. More than 2,000 Idaho residents gained an understanding of long term care options, costs and how to plan for a “later life” of health and dignity.

Program Awards

PROGRAM EXCELLENCE

THROUGH RESEARCH AWARD

Sandra Bailey, Bernie Mason, Jennifer Anderson, Jona McNamee, Denise Seilstadt, Kathy Revello, Ardis Oelkers, Bethany Letiecq (Montana)

The Montana Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Project research examined the resource needs, parenting stress, and well-being of grandparents. Grandparents with greater confidence in their parenting had less parenting stress and

grandparent depression was related to greater parenting stress. Findings informed the development of mental health services and parenting education for grandparents.

Mary Blackburn, Amy B. Joy, Barbara Turner, Marilyn S. Townsend, Anna C. Martin, Lucia L. Kaiser (California)

Extension educators developed and validated an eleven question Food Behavior Checklist (FBC) to evaluate fruit and vegetable intake among ethnically diverse families. Results showed seven questions were significantly correlated with total serum carotenoids. The seven-question FBC proved to be a valid and reliable indicator of fruit and vegetable consumption.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARD

Elisa Shackelton, William Nobles, Wendy Rice, Kurt Jones, Karen Crumbaker, Sheila Barry, Irene Shonle, Karen Massey, Debbie Alpe, Jan Sennhenn, Rhonda Follman, Donna Leiss, Ken Tremblay, Doug Hall, Laura Au-Yeung, Gale Miller, Anne Zander (Colorado)

Extension Agents serving 19 Colorado counties collaboratively deliv-

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PROGRAM AWARDS

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ered radon education programs and encouraged residential radon testing. An estimated 139,000 residents were impacted by newspaper articles, radio PSA's, displays at county fairs, and/or 31 public programs. 1500 short-term and 85 long-term radon test kits were provided free to program participants.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE

TRAINING AWARD

**Patricia Merk, Darcy Dixon,
Lynne Durrant, Evelyn Whitmer,
Marta Stuart (Arizona)**

Mind Matters Training is a high impact 21 hour experiential learning program for Arizona early care and education professionals. Over 600 participants have improved professional practice with children ages birth to five as a result of Mind Matters. Evaluations show the program is highly effective in improving child care quality.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

EDUCATION GRANT

**Laura L. Sant, Marnie R. Spencer
(Idaho)**

The Healthy Lifestyles Education Grant will be used to develop a program curriculum entitled Life Balance for Health. It will be a multi-class curriculum aimed at improving decision making skills, time and stress management, and lifestyle

practices (eating, fitness, sleep, etc.) to ultimately impact health positively.

Communication Awards

NEWSLETTERS

**Catherine Lamp, Estella West, Jim Coats, Robin Walton – 1st Place
(California)**

First introduced in the 1980's Parent Express, a set of 15 age-paced parenting newsletters covering the first year of life, has been skillfully updated in content and look. Topics include child development, nutrition, health and safety, general infant care, and activities parents can use to stimulate their baby's development.

WRITTEN PRESS RELEASES

Nina Roll – 1st Place (Oregon)

Do you consider child care an economic development issue? Many economists do. It's difficult however, to build a consensus of community support for an issue long relegated to parents to contend with on their own. An Extension Spotlight Column proves to be an effective forum for dispelling myths and misconceptions.

**Lynne Beam – 2nd Place
(New Mexico)**

In her bi-monthly news column for the Farmington Daily Times, Lynne focuses on timely issues she feels her readers are interested in. This column appeared the day after ABC movie "Fatal Contact: Bird Flu in America" aired to address some of the concerns viewers might have.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Marnie Spencer, Laura L. Sant, Rhea Lanting – 1st Place (Idaho)

Meal Time in Less Time is a three-lesson program to teach individuals how to plan quick and healthy meals, shop to save time and money, and prepare healthy meals in less time. Evaluation results indicate that program participants increased healthy meal planning and preparation behaviors.

Jane Wolery, Millie Veltkamp, Marla Goodman, Jay Van Voast, Dan Clark, Wade Crouch, Wendy Wedum, Robb Wearley, Adele Stenson, Rhea Brutosky, Jamie Smith – 2nd Place (Montana)

Jane Wolery, MSU Teton County Extension Agent, and colleagues coordinated a technology retreat for Extension agents, specialists and staff. The retreat included training on a variety of software and updates on the latest tech trends. Participants reported an increase in job efficiency as a result of the training.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM PACKAGE

Rhea Lanting, Martha Raidl, Joey Peutz, Katie Miner – 1st Place (Idaho)

Got Calcium? Building Strong Bones is a four lesson curriculum designed for 3rd and 4th graders that promotes calcium-rich foods. It teaches the importance of calcium in the diet, factors involved in building

strong bones, which foods contain calcium and how to increase the calcium content of their diet.

Holly Berry, Sally Bowman – 2nd Place (Oregon)

The loss of family wage jobs, high housing and medical costs, and shrinking paychecks are just a few of the many causes of hunger in the United States. The simulation was created to allow participants an opportunity to explore some of the causes of hunger and food insecurity.

EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Jeanne Brandt, Carmen Steggell – 1st Place (Oregon)

This publication addresses assessing and modifying existing housing with a focus on safety and comfort for children with physical limitations and their caregivers. Attention is paid to problem areas of entrances, bathrooms, movement around in the home and successfully working with contractors.

INTERNET EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY

Linda Block, Robert Armstrong, Robin Harris, Sharon Hoelscher Day, Kay Hongu – 1st Place (Arizona)

The website allows coordinators to implement the 16-week walking program. To evaluate success and benefits of the walking program, entry, exit, and tracking forms were devel-

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COMMUNICATION AWARDS*continued from page 59*

oped to characterize the participants, track their physical activity habits, levels of energy, social interaction, and satisfaction with their community.

radio PSA's, displays at county fairs, and/or 31 public education programs. 1500 short-term and 85 long-term radon test kits were provided free to program participants.

Public Relations Awards**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP****AWARD****Bernice Mason (Montana)**

Bernice Mason, Extension Agent and a Community Partnership of local sewing related businesses have presented the Rocky Mt. Sewing & Craft Festival for 12 years, giving the opportunity for a wide variety of individuals to receive quality sewing instruction in a rural region that is lacking in this resource.

SDA Clean Homes...Safe and Healthy Families Program Award of Excellence

Elisa Shackelton, William Nobles, Wendy Rice, Kurt Jones, Karen Crumbaker, Sheila Barry, Irene Shonle, Karen Massey, Debbie Alpe, Jan Sennhenn, Rhonda Follman, Donna Liess, Ken Tremblay, Doug Hall, Laura Au-Yeung, Gale Miller, Anne Zander, Jacque Miller (Colorado)

Extension Agents serving 19 Colorado counties collaboratively delivered radon education programs and encouraged residential radon testing. An estimated 139,000 residents were impacted by newspaper articles,

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