

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT 9 HEADQUARTERS

April 7, 2015

Memorandum To: All County Extension Agents and Extension Agents – Southeast Extension District 9

From: Dale A. Fritz, Ph.D., District Extension Administrator

Subject: Program/Personnel Updates – Southeast Extension District 9

Congratulations

- Congratulations is extended to Christopher and **Fralonda (Anderson)** Aubrey, Harris County Extension Agent – Urban Youth Development, on their marriage on Saturday, March 28, 2015. Please help me in wishing them the very best in their married lives together.

Congratulations on Career Ladder Promotions

- **Elizabeth Trejo**, Harris County Extension Agent – FCS, promoted from Level III to Level IV, effective September 1, 2015
- **Leticia Hardy**, Fort Bend County Extension Agent – FCS, promoted from Level I to Level II, effective September 1, 2015
- **Jennifer Garza**, Harris County Extension Agent – FCS – Cooperative Extension Program, from Level I to Level II, effective September 1, 2015

Second Quarter BLT Match Hour Reports Due April 9, 2015

The end of March, 2015 marks the end of our second quarter in the current 2015 BLT Fiscal Year. Therefore, all Match Hour reports for January, February, and March, 2015 are due in our BLT Online Reporting System on or before April 9, 2015. It is imperative that you report all planned and unplanned Match Hours for January, February, and March 2015 by the April 9th deadline. Your timely reporting will assist you and our agency in meeting our Performance Measures for this important Nutrition Education Program.

2016 BLT Program Proposal Due April 15, 2015

During this upcoming year we will celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Better Living for Texans Nutrition Education Program. This program has been a corner stone in serving SNAP recipients across the state of Texas. The 2016 BLT goals and proposal process has been recently announced by Dr. Anding to all FCS agents. I'm sure that you will be excited about the "refreshed and new" aspects of the program.

The spring typically serves as the time to complete next years' proposal, and we are now starting that process. On Monday, you should have received an e-mail from Dr. Anding which outlines the proposal process with guidelines and other needed attachments. A **webinar will be held Thursday, April 9th at**

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
PO Box 2150, Bryan, Texas 77806
Riverside Campus, 3100 State Hwy 47, Bldg. 4431, Bryan, Texas 77807
Tel. 979.845.6800 | Fax. 979.845.6501 | AgriLifeExtension.tamu.edu | bryan.tamu.edu

1:30 p.m. to layout the 2016 BLT Program proposal process. If you cannot attend the live session, it will be recorded for later viewing. FCS agents with primary BLT Program responsibilities should plan to attend the webinar. All other agents are encourage to attend the webinar.

As you look at the materials and attend the webinar, you will quickly see that we need to think differently. It is a new day for BLT as far as match considerations, which should alleviate some of the reporting stress. Please note that the **completed Proposal Form is due on April 15th**. Other attachments have a later due date. So here is a list of things to do:

- Carefully read the guidelines and forms.
- Begin thinking about your match hours towards the BLT Program.
- Discuss BLT Programming and Match Hours with co-workers and office staff during an upcoming Office Conference. Please remember that Match Hours will be mainly connected to programming or data entry. While the main goals are for graduates in the listed series, it is still appropriate for co-workers to participate and provide some match hours with programs such as pantry pests, gardening, beef cuts, etc.
- Either attend or listen to the recording of the webinar.
- The FCS agent with primary BLT Program responsibilities should contact Dr. Fries to discuss the BLT Program in your county. She can be reached at efries@ag.tamu.edu, 361-265-9203 (office) or 210-557-9647 (cell).

Thanks for all you do for the BLT Program!

Appointments

- **Joshua Williams** has been hired as the new Waller County Extension Agent – 4-H – Cooperative Extension Program effective March 16, 2015. Joshua earned a Master of Science degree in Human Sciences from Prairie View A&M University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work also from the Prairie View A&M University. He previously worked as the Student Leadership and Activities Administrative Assistant at Blinn College in Bryan and as a 4-H and Youth Development Graduate Assistant, Student Assistant and Intern with Prairie View A&M University. Please join me in welcoming Joshua to Waller County, District 9 and the Cooperative Extension Program at Prairie View A&M University.
- **Ashlee Krebs** has been hired as the new Orange County Extension Agent – Agriculture and Natural Resources effective May 11, 2015. Ashlee earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Services and Development with a minor in Animal Sciences from Tarleton State University. She also attended McNeese State University and is currently working on an online Masters degree in Animal Science from Sul Ross State University. She previously worked as an Agriculture Science Teacher with Kountze ISD and Garrison ISD and as an Extension Intern at the Erath County Extension Office in Stephenville. Ashlee was very involved in the Tyler County 4-H and Warren FFA Programs, Collegiate Rodeo Team, Livestock Judging, Collegiate FFA and Equestrian Team. Please join me in welcoming Ashlee to Orange County, District 9 and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

Resignation

- **Shane Jennings**, Brazoria County Extension Agent-4-H, has resigned from his position effective April 9, 2015. Shane has accepted a new position as Fair Manager with the Brazoria County Fair Association in Angleton. Please join me in wishing Shane the very best in his new career path.

Open Positions in District 9

The following positions are currently open in Southeast Extension District 9. If you have an interest in transferring to one of the open positions please let me know and apply at the GreatJobs website. Also, if you know of any other agent in the state who may be interested in transferring to the best District in the State, please let them know of these vacancies. In addition, if you know of any individual who may have an interest in working for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension or the Cooperative Extension Program at Prairie View A&M, please let them know of these vacancies.

- Brazoria CEA-Ag/NR
- Brazoria CEA-FCS
- Brazoria CEA-4-H
- Fort Bend EA-4-H-CEP
- Fort Bend EA-Ag/NR-CEP (finalizing process with candidate)
- Fort Bend EA-FCS-CEP
- Grimes EA-FCS-CEP
- Liberty EA-CED-CEP
- Walker CEA-FCS (interviews scheduled)
- Waller CEA-Ag/NR (finalizing process with candidate)

If you have questions or comments, please let me know.