

# MSU Extension Awards



October 25–26, 2016

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Kellogg Center  
Michigan State University

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## About the Awards Program

Michigan State University (MSU) Extension presents a variety of awards at its Fall Extension Conference each year. The awards honor outstanding MSU Extension staff members, programs, and key partners.

The selection committee for the MSU Extension administration awards is made up of Extension administrators who represent institutes, district coordinators, and the MSU Extension Director's Office. While the winners of the Friend of Extension Award and John A. Hannah Award for Program Excellence are presented as part of MSU Extension administration awards, they are chosen by Epsilon Sigma Phi and the Michigan Council of Extension Associations, respectively.

Also listed in this program are MSU Extension personnel who have received awards at preconference meetings and throughout the year. The professional associations are:

- Community and Natural Resources Development Association (CNRDA)
- Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP), Alpha Psi Chapter
- Michigan Association of Extension Agents (MAEA)
- Michigan Association of Extension 4-H Youth Staff (MAE4-HYS)
- Michigan Council of Extension Associations (MCEA)
- Michigan Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (MEAFCS)
- MSU Extension Specialist and State Staff Association (MESSA)

Tuesday, October 25, Lunch

## Michigan Council of Extension Associations John A. Hannah Award for Program Excellence

### Effective Management of Farm Employees

**Phil Durst and Stanley Moore**

Managing employees effectively can always be challenging, and farm management is no exception. With the potential to affect farm performance and profitability to a large degree, employee management has become a primary role of farm owners.

Phil Durst and Stanley Moore, MSU Extension senior educators, initiated and carried out a project to work with dairy farm owners and managers using feedback from their employees. Phil and Stan interviewed 174 employees of 13 farms in four states. They analyzed the feedback from each farm's employees and provided customized management recommendations to the owners.

Phil and Stan have used the results of the interviews to provide valuable recommendations to many other agricultural professionals as well. They shared principles of effective employee management and engagement with agricultural owners, managers, and professionals in Michigan, other states, and internationally through more than 28 presentations and conferences from 2014 through 2016.

Phil and Stan were featured in three webinars and recorded three podcasts. They write a regular column on human resource management for DairyBusiness East. They are co-editors for a section on employee management, and co-authors of a chapter in the e-book *Large Dairy Herd Management*.

They also developed management conferences to help farm owners and managers improve their skills and knowledge. Evaluations show that many participants put the knowledge to work on their farms. As a result of the pair's work, farmers across the world have adopted better management practices.

Congratulations to Phil and Stan on the prestigious Michigan Council of Extension Associations John A. Hannah Award for Program Excellence.

MSU Extension  
Administration Awards

## Diversity and Multiculturalism Award

### Nutrition and Physical Activity Bilingual Team

**Ingrid Aguayo, Andrea Aguilar, Maha Alnunu, Carmensita J. Buentello, Maria Del Real, Sandria Graham, Benjamin Langenderfer, Sulaiman F. Mansour, and Yesenia Velasco**

In a state that's home to many languages and cultures, MSU Extension seeks to serve all residents. When serving linguistically diverse audiences, staff tried translating English materials verbatim. But an English-based curriculum could only partially meet the needs of participants who speak Arabic, Spanish, or American Sign Language.

The Nutrition and Physical Activity (NPA) Bilingual Team came to the rescue, developing and delivering culturally appropriate programs in those three languages.

The team developed a nutrition curriculum in Spanish called Comida Saludables, Familias Saludables (Healthy Foods, Healthy Families). Additionally, they worked with families through Migrant Head Start centers that serve 1,235 children to enhance their cognitive, social, and emotional development.

The NPA Bilingual Team also built local partnerships with Michigan Refugee Settlement Services and the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services. Arabic-speaking staff helped design and adapt nutrition education materials, such as cookbooks, to meet the learning styles, language, and cultural needs of Arabic-speaking residents.

In 2015, the team delivered programs in Spanish, Arabic, and American Sign Language, reaching more than 1,600 adults, an increase over previous years. Participants established healthier lifestyles through learning about nutrition, physical activity, and food safety in a culturally and linguistically friendly context.

We honor the NPA Bilingual Team with the Diversity and Multiculturalism Award for reaching new and underrepresented audiences, promoting inclusion in program content and delivery, partnering with diverse communities and constituents, and building sustained relationships.

## Innovative Technology Awards

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### Creative Online Course Offering

#### Michigan's Health Matters Social Media Campaign

Ellen Darnall, Dawn Earnesty, and Erin Powell

Many barriers, including lack of transportation, child care, and time, affect clients' opportunity to attend in-person classes. Social media can break through the barriers, serving as marketing tools for disseminating information directly to clients so they can access information at their fingertips, wherever they are.

Ellen Darnall, Dawn Earnesty, and Erin Powell decided to take advantage of the new opportunity to increase Extension's reach. The educators created the Michigan's Health Matters social media campaign in 2014 as an outlet for health and nutrition resources. The campaign disseminates content from all Health and Nutrition Institute work teams including food safety, nutrition and physical activity, social and emotional health, and disease prevention and management. The campaign uses three social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest. The trio provide a variety of content through engaging posts, links to relevant articles, and creative photos and videos.

The campaign has proven an effective marketing tool. The Facebook page has almost 1,100 likes and continues to reach more people every week. Reaching more than 12,000 people monthly, page reach increased more than 50 percent from August 2015 to May 2016. Michigan's Health Matters has helped adults make positive health choices, crucial to many health factors. The campaign is spreading the message that eating well reduces the risk of chronic disease, promotes energy, affects an individual's weight, and influences how they feel.

For effectively reaching people where they are, Ellen, Dawn, and Erin are deserving recipients of the Innovative Technology Award.

### Technology Use in Educational Programming

Amy Irish-Brown and Phil Schwallier

Honeycrisp and Fuji apples, sought after by consumers, are high in value because of their outstanding flavor. But they are more difficult to raise and store than other varieties. Good harvest and storage decisions are important to providing a good product to the consumer and a good return on investment for the grower. MSU Extension educators Amy Irish-Brown and Phil Schwallier knew that producers need accurate data to assist in their decision-making.

The pair set a goal to improve growers' awareness of maturity stages and storage requirements for Honeycrisp and Fuji apples. Toward that end, they listened to growers, secured funding sponsors, and sought partners in Michigan's apple industry to collaborate on creating the MSU Ridge Apple Lab in 2015. The lab, near Sparta, provides infrastructure for Extension and research programs to measure fruit weight, color, defects, size, firmness, fruit chlorophyll, starch, and ratio of sugar to liquid in the fruit as it ripens. The lab provides real-time information to Michigan apple producers from preharvest through the harvest season and throughout the storage period.

Phil and Amy designed an integrated program that provides production and harvest information to 600 producers in concise weekly reports. After accurate analysis at the lab, Amy and Phil integrate, summarize, and deliver information to Michigan apple growers to help them make the best decisions and grow profitable, high-quality apples.

Amy and Phil have demonstrated initiative in the use of technology in educational programming and are deserving recipients of the Innovative Technology Award.

## Institute Team Award

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### MSU Placemaking Team

**Wayne Beyea, Holly Madill, Brad Neumann, Kurt Schindler, Dean Solomon, and Mark Wyckoff**

A decade ago, Michigan communities were unprepared for a changing economy. Many have struggled with loss of population and jobs. A new approach to economic development was needed – one that improves community amenities and quality of life to attract and retain highly mobile talent. Placemaking – creating communities where people want to live, work, play, and learn – was needed.

The MSU Extension Placemaking Team came together after receiving a grant from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority to develop training materials. The materials focus on strategies communities can use to improve quality of life, stabilize population loss, attract talent, and restore economic prosperity. The team developed the Michigan Placemaking Curriculum, a 36-hour comprehensive training program. They also wrote a comprehensive guide to placemaking.

The Placemaking Team trained hundreds of land use and economic development professionals who, in turn, used the curriculum to train more than 15,000 Michigan residents. During 2015–2016, the team organized 32 hands-on placemaking workshops statewide. The team has also facilitated PlacePlans, individual placemaking plans, in 22 communities in partnership with the Michigan Municipal League and the MSU School of Planning, Design, and Construction.

The Placemaking Team has become Michigan's "go-to" educational resource for placemaking. It is a key partner in the Mlplace Partnership Initiative, a collaboration of nonprofits and state agencies that coordinate with the state's Sense of Place Council. From the governor's office down, state leaders have embraced placemaking as a key economic development strategy.

Congratulations to the MSU Placemaking Team for its efforts to revitalize Michigan, one place at a time.

## Outstanding Service to MSU Extension Award

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### Dean Solomon

Dean Solomon is one of those leaders who lift our entire organization, making it better internally and enhancing our ability to serve. He's the kind of leader an organization as large as MSU Extension needs to show excellence in service, program planning and delivery, evaluation, and administration. He epitomizes service and excellence.

As a district water specialist and county MSU Extension director, Dean established deep relationships in key stakeholder groups throughout the state. Many of his partnerships resulted in new educational initiatives that became signature programs.

A highly skilled facilitator and teacher, Dean's class and workshop participants consistently gave him high marks in their reviews and were eager to learn from a scholar and respected educator. In his current role as a senior Extension educator within the Greening Michigan Institute, Dean often leads initiatives both within the institute and for the entire organization. His technological skills have resulted in new online curricula and creative approaches to providing education to our clientele. His educational programs have received national recognition from his peers in both the natural resources and community development disciplines.

Dean epitomizes the term *servant leader*. He has served on numerous task forces and special committees, lending his perspectives on how the organization can improve its processes. He has served as a work team leader, signature program coordinator, and staff mentor. Nationally, he has served as president of the Association of Natural Resources Extension Professionals (ANREP), and played a key role in the joint national conferences of ANREP and the National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP).

We thank Dean for more than 35 years of serving as a leader, relationship builder, teacher, and innovator. We appreciate his commitment to Extension, and congratulate him on the Outstanding Service to MSU Extension Award.

Tuesday, October 25, Dinner

## Epsilon Sigma Phi Friend of Extension Award

### Zeeland Farm Services Inc.

#### Dan Meeuwesen

MSU Extension relies on partnerships to reach special audiences and inform decision-making. One special audience is the soybean industry. Michigan is the 12th largest soybean producing state with nearly 2 million acres of soybeans planted on more than 10,000 farms each year. How can MSU Extension reach the people involved in soybean growth and production? With the support of Zeeland Farm Services (ZFS).

ZFS is a family-owned, family-operated business with 65 years of service to agricultural and transportation industries. ZFS hosts Michigan's largest soybean processing plant. For the past 16 years, the Meeuwesen family of Zeeland has supported Extension programming and helped MSU Extension reach soybean producers across the state. They have encouraged growers to attend Extension field days, educational meetings, and variety trial tours, and to adopt MSU agronomic recommendations. Through newsletters, farmer meetings, and field days, ZFS provides opportunities for Extension to disseminate unbiased, research-based information to its clientele.

As a result, MSU Extension has a direct connection to soybean producers and to the industry. We have a partner we can count on. MSU Extension can reach ZFS clientele with the latest research and respond to their needs because of this partnership. When farmers can make informed decisions, their productivity and their bottom line improve. With the best information, growers can produce the best crops.

ZFS personnel promote programs, represent Extension as lay leaders, serve as key collaborators, and support MSU Extension in many other ways. Congratulations to Zeeland Farm Services, our 2016 Friend of Extension.

MSU Extension  
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## Key Partner Awards

### Great Lakes Fishery Trust's Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative

#### Julie Metty Bennett, Lisa Marckini-Polk, and Mary Whitmore

Each Michigan community has a unique set of resources and needs, but the need for youth education and engagement is universal. Working with youth in community development furthers Michigan State University Extension's mission to help people improve their lives.

In 2006, the Great Lakes Fishery Trust (GLFT) formed the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative (GLSI) to promote rigorous, place-based stewardship education for K-12 students. This network has nine hubs operating regionally in Michigan, two led by MSU Extension. Team members Julie Metty Bennett, Lisa Marckini-Polk, and Mary Whitmore support the hubs financially, programmatically, and through evaluation. The GLFT GLSI network facilitates school and community partnerships, provides professional development for educators and community partners, and directly supports innovative, collaborative, student-driven projects. The team brings together Extension, Michigan Sea Grant, the 4-H youth science team, the Michigan Natural Features Inventory, MSU Department of Community Sustainability, and the MSU Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

In its first 5 years, the partnership engaged 50,000 stewards in environmental stewardship projects across Michigan. Youth participated in hands-on learning opportunities that addressed their communities' needs and Michigan's education standards. Through place-based educational projects, teachers and school administrators learned the value that Extension and 4-H opportunities bring to their youth and communities. Finally, the external evaluation support from GLFT GLSI has helped Extension participate in scholarship that has been published and presented at national conferences.

The Great Lakes Fishery Trust's Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative team has made significant contributions to creating, improving, supporting, and promoting MSU Extension programs. Congratulations on the MSU Extension Key Partner Award.

Tuesday, October 25, Dinner

## Mona Hanna-Attisha

**Pediatrics and Human Development, College of Human Medicine, MSU**

In the fall of 2015, Pediatrician Mona Hanna-Attisha released research showing that the number of infants and children in Flint with elevated lead levels in their blood nearly doubled after the city switched its water source from the Detroit water system to the Flint River. Dr. Mona, as she is affectionately known, felt an ethical, moral, and professional obligation to share this information with the public immediately. Her research sparked a national response to the emergency.

Mona has been a strong advocate of MSU Extension programs throughout the water emergency. Soon after releasing her research, she worked with many experts in the community, including MSU Extension staff members, to develop educational materials on how to mitigate the effects of lead exposure. Mona's efforts led to the development of the Pediatric Public Health Initiative, a partnership with MSU Extension, the MSU College of Human Medicine, Hurley Hospital, the Genesee County Health Department, and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. The initiative provides resources for assessing, monitoring, and intervening to address lead exposure across the population and help Flint children grow up healthy and strong.

Mona's strong ties to the Flint community and MSU have given MSU Extension several opportunities to expand and enhance programs. She worked with Extension to provide technical insights into nutrition information, including a fact sheet and an educational booklet with recipes featuring lead-mitigating foods. As additional needs have been identified throughout the water emergency, Mona's advocacy of MSU Extension has helped our team enhance and expand programs.

Mona has worked tirelessly with MSU Extension to provide long-term support for families affected by the Flint water emergency. We thank her for her partnership and congratulate her on the Key Partner Award.

MSU Extension  
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## City of Manistee Planning and Zoning Department

**Denise Blakeslee, Colleen Kenny, and Thad Taylor**

Always looking to expand the reach of MSU Extension, staff members jumped at a new opportunity in 1999. That's when City of Manistee Planning and Zoning Department officials expressed a need for educating the city's planning commission team. MSU Extension offers a variety of training courses and presentations on tools and techniques for local planning and zoning, so we were able to fill the need.

When MSU Extension created the Citizen Planner Program to educate locally appointed and elected officials on land use, the City of Manistee was the first to adopt the program, requiring all of its planning commission and zoning board of appeals members to participate in the continuing education program. The city has been an enthusiastic supporter of MSU Extension and a champion of the Citizen Planner Program from the start.

Manistee city officials have directly credited MSU Extension training for the city's success in its planning and zoning program and in prevailing in a zoning court case. City officials have shared this success and the importance of Extension's training numerous times in statewide publications *Planning and Zoning News* and *Michigan Planner*, as well as in evaluations. City officials show they value and support the programs by offering to host training and evaluation sessions without charge at city facilities.

One result of this partnership is the city spreading the word about MSU Extension. Programs in Manistee are among the best attended land use training events in Northwest Michigan.

The City of Manistee helped MSU Extension by co-founding a periodic meeting of planners and zoning administrators which helps identify important topics. Our organization benefits from the input of stakeholders that live and work in the communities we serve.

This Key Partner Award recognizes the City of Manistee Planning and Zoning Department for embracing and promoting MSU Extension programs.

Tuesday, October 25, Dinner

## Michigan Milk Producers Association

**Sheila Burkhardt and Ken Nobis**

For the past 100 years, MSU Extension has enjoyed a partnership with the Michigan Milk Producers Association (MMPA) to support youth programs, and this year, to respond to the Flint water emergency. Long-term partnerships are important to MSU Extension, not only to support ongoing educational efforts, but also to respond to immediate needs.

When MSU Extension Director Jeff Dwyer mentioned that our staff members were working with Flint residents to ensure they had access to foods high in calcium, iron, and vitamin C to block the absorption of lead, MMPA President Ken Nobis quickly offered to provide Flint with milk, high in those important nutrients. MMPA brought together 2,000 dairy farm families to donate 12,000 gallons of milk for distribution to Flint families. And they did so not just once, but twice. The dairy cooperative also rallied Kroger, United Dairy Industry of Michigan, and Quickway to make it happen.

MMPA has provided financial support through gifts totaling more than \$100,000 to the Michigan 4-H Foundation, plus grant matches, funding for a state 4-H camp, personnel to assist at youth events, and hosting an annual youth career development and scholarship program.

Through the numerous programs MMPA sponsors or hosts, thousands of youth and adults in Michigan have gained new opportunities to learn and grow their knowledge of the dairy industry. By sponsoring, hosting programs, providing volunteers, and involving Extension in MMPA events, the organization has exponentially increased our ability to reach more people.

For its long history of partnership and its generous assistance during an emergency, we honor MMPA with the MSU Extension Key Partner Award.

MSU Extension  
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## Pingree Farms

**Jim and Shelly Green**

In 2010, Jim and Shelly Green, owners of Milton Manufacturing, wondered whether the mostly abandoned, dilapidated Detroit neighborhood around their factory could be put to better use.

They began purchasing the abandoned lots and tore down crumbling houses to create a large production garden. With the help of volunteers, they planted tomatoes, squash, corn, cucumbers, and eggplants. The family welcomed the entire community to harvest produce free of charge.

Jim and Shelly's children had been involved in 4-H, and they decided to add livestock to the farm. The children made Oakland County 4-H members aware of the farm. 4-H'ers seeking hands-on experience with livestock approached Jim about starting a club at the farm, and he welcomed the opportunity.

Youth in the Pingree 4-H Club participate in the program without charge. Pingree Farms and the Green family provide the livestock, supplies, and feed. They even give the young people apparel for animal care, and pay their 4-H participation fees and fair exhibitor fees. With Jim and Shelly's support, the youth learn life skills while caring for animals and participating in the Oakland County Fair.

Last year, Jim met with staff of Milton Manufacturing and Pingree Farms, Educational Achievement Authority administrators, and Wayne County MSU Extension staff to plan an expansion of programs at the farm. This collaboration and Jim's vision led to an in-school program that offers 45 students from three schools the opportunity to gain life skills and learn animal husbandry as they care for rabbits, goats, sheep, chickens, turkeys, miniature cows, pigs, and ponies. Many of the youth join the 4-H club and compete at the Wayne County Fair.

The Green family's passion, commitment to agriculture, mission to make a difference in the community, and dedication to creating safe, hands-on learning opportunities for kids in Detroit is commendable. We recognize Jim and Shelly, and the Pingree Farms staff, for the vision to partner with MSU Extension in providing opportunities for youth. Congratulations on the MSU Extension Key Partner Award.



## Gordon Guyer Collaborative Programming Award

### MSU Extension Flint Water Emergency Response Team

When the Flint water emergency came to light in 2015, MSU Extension was already in place, ready to deploy leadership and program resources to affected children, families, and neighborhoods to provide a rapid response based on research and focused on education.

MSU Extension staff led the universitywide effort, which included the MSU Extension Genesee County office, MSU Extension Director's Office, all four Extension institutes, ANR Creative, and the MSU College of Human Medicine. Extension staff immediately contacted experts and partners in the field to quickly develop research, translate it for public use, and create materials for affected audiences.

Health and nutrition staff developed programs and materials to address healthy eating to mitigate lead absorption. Children and youth staff worked closely with community partners to develop resources and programs to help parents promote activities that support cognitive development. Greening Michigan staff provided education about gardening and accessing healthy food, as well as soil testing.

The emergency command center in the state recognized MSU Extension's history of more than 100 years and Flint residents' trust of staff, so officials approved all MSU Extension materials for state agencies' use. Materials were translated into three languages. Staff worked with Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha in developing nutrition education materials including a fact sheet and a booklet with recipes featuring lead-mitigating foods. Created in January 2016, by May the booklet had been distributed to more than 35,000 Flint residents. In the same period, more than 14,000 viewers visited MSU Extension's Fight Lead Exposure website, a resource hub for residents containing all educational material developed by staff.

The Gordon Guyer Collaborative Programming Award honors the MSU Extension Flint Water Emergency Response Team for its exceptional work in responding to the emergency. The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture is also honoring the team with the Abraham Lincoln Award for External Partnership, the most prestigious award presented by the Secretary of Agriculture. The team exemplifies this year's theme, "Strong Service and Superior Results." Congratulations to the MSU Extension Flint Water Emergency Response Team, listed below.

- |                      |                    |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Darren Bagley        | Jeffrey Dwyer      | Terry McLean       |
| Ron Bates            | Deanna East        | Kendra Moyses      |
| Nick Bourland        | Samantha Farah     | Heidi Mudel        |
| Moses Cantu          | Deborah Hamilton   | Cathy Newkirk      |
| Julie Chapin         | Rebecca Hulbert    | Erin Powell        |
| Deborah A. Clark     | Dave Ivan          | Katherine Raphael  |
| Dawn Contreras       | LaShanda Jackson   | Marian Reiter      |
| Sean Corp            | Kristina Jimmerson | Abiya Saeed        |
| Kelsey Crossman      | Liz Josaitis       | Eric Scorsone      |
| Tom Cummins          | M. Lynette Kaiser  | Carrie Shrier      |
| Courtney Cuthbertson | Maha Khrais        | Jennifer Skornicka |
| Monica Day           | Nancy Latham       | Diane Smith        |
| Taylor Duvall        | Rebecca McKee      | Beth Stuever       |

## Meritorious Service Awards

### Educator

#### Gail Innis

Early childhood, between birth and age 5, is an important formative period. Children need guidance from parents and caregivers in the areas of nutrition, social and emotional health, and emerging literacy. Unfortunately, there are parents and caregivers in Michigan who have limited resources when it comes to early childhood development.

Gail Innis, MSU Extension educator, has been a leader in developing programming and partnerships throughout her career. Passionate about early childhood education, Gail developed three curricula and revised four others. She develops statewide programs to support parents and caregivers in managing children's social and emotional health. She provides expertise in children's literature as a tool for parents, caregivers, and educators to use in helping young people explore crucial issues related to their health and well-being.

Gail has also trained early childhood staff on RELAX: Alternatives to Anger, and helped write the version for parents and caregivers. She has helped develop numerous early childhood modules and trained staff in their use.

Adults participating in Gail's parenting education classes have learned how to keep children socially, emotionally, and physically safe, as well as techniques that promote school readiness and academic success. In the past 3 years, she has reached 192 participants through her programming series and an additional 3,791 in one-time presentations. Her numerous partnerships with agencies across the state and her success in grant writing and resource development have helped her make Extension a crucial part of the mix of service programs for children and families.

We are delighted to recognize Gail with the Meritorious Service Award in honor of her continuing leadership and excellence in early childhood development.

### Erin Lizotte

MSU Extension educator Erin Lizotte is a problem solver. With many new and veteran farmers transitioning to growing high-value specialty crops she saw a need to offer education about controlling diseases and pests sustainably. Young farmers have difficulty entering the profession because of increasing land costs and a lack of agribusiness acumen. Erin recognized that farmers needed education on business innovation, product diversification, and marketing, as well as leadership and relationship building.

To respond to the need for integrated pest management (IPM) education for specialty crop producers, Erin worked across commodity groups to develop an IPM academy and a webinar series. Erin co-created and coordinates the Great Lakes Hop Working Group, a large-scale effort to develop and provide resources to hop producers.

To help new farmers, Erin collaborated with other educators to develop the Beginning Farmer Webinar Series. With Extension colleagues, she sourced funding to develop a 2-year leadership program for 40 young farmers and organized a capstone international agricultural tour to New Zealand.

Erin's work on the Beginning Farmer series, traditional classroom training, and experiential learning opportunities has not only increased farmers' knowledge, technical, and leadership skills, it has improved environmental stewardship and enhanced farm sustainability. The program has also increased investments and jobs.

The IPM Academy increased access to multiple underserved audiences and made an impact on more than 1.5 million acres of agricultural land. Together with colleagues and community partners, Erin developed highly effective educational programs and secured more than \$3 million in grant funding to support her efforts over the past 9 years.

We are delighted to recognize Erin with the Meritorious Service Award in honor of her leadership, excellence in IPM, and engagement with new farmers.

## Program Instructor, Associate, Assistant, and Coordinator

### Michelle Smith

Low-income families struggle with food insecurity and unhealthy eating habits. The Michigan Department of Human Services partners with MSU Extension to provide Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP Ed). SNAP Ed is a free nutrition education program to reduce hunger and food insecurity and promote healthy eating habits in youth, teens, and adults. MSU Extension is committed to providing resources and meeting the needs of low-income families, especially those that are underserved.

Michelle Smith is a health and nutrition program instructor working to meet the needs of the SNAP Ed audiences we serve. Michelle's most significant contribution is her commitment to underserved audiences in Grand Traverse County. She is exceptionally skilled at working with adults who are cognitively and emotionally impaired. Michelle actively seeks out these individuals and creates classes that build on their strengths, reduce barriers to their participation, and create an environment of acceptance and compassion.

Clients of the nonprofit BrickWays have praised her kind and caring approach and the organization's staff shared that Michelle has been accepted with overwhelming enthusiasm by clients and staff alike. The number of participants in Michelle's Paths to Independence classes has increased each year.

We are delighted to recognize Michelle with the Meritorious Service Award in honor of her continuing leadership and excellence in health and nutrition programming and for the impact of her outreach.

### Robert Weber

Since the recession hit Michigan in 2008, thousands of Macomb County families have sought financial counseling and assistance. Since 2010, close to 1,900 Macomb County households applied for Hardest Hit Funds – federal funds to help homeowners prevent foreclosure.

Robert Weber, program instructor in the Greening Michigan Institute, has counseled more than 500 struggling homeowners. In 2015 alone, Robert and the MSU Extension Macomb County staff answered more than 500 calls from distressed homeowners, and he personally met with more than 90 individuals. This year, Robert helped develop a pilot counseling program with the Macomb County Treasurer's Office that has the potential to be a statewide model.

Robert played a key role in MSU Extension Macomb County's efforts to help residents who needed assistance by answering questions, making referrals, and meeting one on one to assist residents completing applications for Hardest Hit Funds. The program awarded close to \$19 million to Macomb County homeowners who have experienced hardship.

Robert and MSU Extension Macomb County have positioned Extension as a trusted third party to provide confidential counseling to taxpayers and make sure homeowners are aware of their rights and responsibilities, as well as referral sources.

We are delighted to honor Robert with the Meritorious Service Award in recognition of his leadership and excellence in providing counseling assistance to Michigan families.

### Jodi Wrzesinski

Jodi Wrzesinski, children and youth program coordinator, found ways to reach out to and effectively engage clients who traditionally have not known the value of Extension 4-H youth programs. She initiated special opportunities for youth in Bay County, where a high percentage of school youth come from low-income families. Title I of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act provides financial assistance to the schools, but many youth lack access to opportunities for development and community engagement.

Jodi piloted several programs for youth and volunteers in Bay County. In 2015 she introduced the 4-H Tech Wizards program and 4-H Family Enrichment Night programming for Title I youth. She created partnerships with businesses, organizations, and individuals to develop opportunities for volunteerism and positive youth development. Her programs exceeded expected impact numbers in the very first year.

After successfully providing the 4-H Tech Wizards program, Jodi brought \$81,000 to Bay County Extension 4-H youth programs in 2015–2016. Her work resulted in ongoing service agreements that bring resources to Extension and high-quality educational programs to families across the county.

We are delighted to award Jodi the Meritorious Service award for mentoring underserved Michigan youth, creating positive environments that foster caring relationships.

## Support Staff

### Lori Martin

The MSU Extension business office houses the institute directors, Extension professionals, and student employees. The office is bustling with phone calls, inquiries, scheduling, travel, and perceived emergencies, creating the need for exceptional team leadership.

Lori Martin supports MSU Extension's four institute directors, as well as staff of the business office. She supervises eight staff members and six students, plus approves time and attendance records for three staff members.

Lori is highly committed to making the organization better. From pursuing cost-saving measures to identifying more efficient processes, she continually seeks solutions to advance MSU Extension's mission and make the best use of available resources. Lori juggles multiple tasks, responds to dozens of inquiries, and addresses urgent needs – all while maintaining a level of professionalism and decorum that represents the best of the organization.

Staff across the state and across campus know that Lori is always available to assist with any problem that arises. She makes herself available not only to those she supervises, but also to educators and paraprofessional staff across the state. She serves as an initial point of contact for many departmental relationships as well. Her knowledge of the university and its systems is a major asset to the effectiveness of the institutes and MSU Extension as a whole.

We are delighted to honor Lori with the Meritorious Service Award in recognition of her continuing leadership and excellence in administratively moving the organization forward.

### Norma Matteson

A pattern of drowning deaths in the Great Lakes has brought attention to dangerous currents in coastal communities. With more than 10,000 miles of freshwater coastline, the Great Lakes see an average of 12 fatalities each summer. Ron Kinnunen, senior educator for Michigan Sea Grant Extension, has been the face of educational efforts in dangerous currents, but he's not the only one responsible for MSU Extension's impact.

Norma Matteson works behind the scenes to prepare Ron's teaching and classroom materials while maintaining the functioning of the Michigan Sea Grant Extension office in Marquette. The Great Lakes Dangerous Currents educational initiative has saved an untold number of lives, and Norma has provided a foundation for Ron's work. For nearly 30 years, she has kept his office organized and efficient while producing teaching materials and maintaining records and databases for his work. "She's always 10 steps ahead," Ron says, making it possible for him to concentrate on his work while she handles many of the details.

Norma's outstanding support of Ron's work allows his programming to save lives. She provides exemplary customer service at the Marquette office and forges connections with state government offices, tribal offices, and other stakeholders.

Michigan State University Extension could not have the impact it has and be on the front lines of residents' needs without support staff like Norma. We are delighted to honor her with the Meritorious Service Award in recognition of her continuing excellence in supporting the important work MSU Extension does.

## Community and Natural Resources Development Association Awards

### Community Partnership Award

#### Garrett Ziegler

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is becoming a popular way for people to buy local produce directly from a farmer. Nationally, tens of thousands of families have joined CSAs. In some areas of the country, the demand for CSAs outpaces the supply.

Garrett Zeigler, community food systems educator, works with the West Michigan Growers Group and Local First of West Michigan to grow the demand and strengthen the supply of CSA farms in West Michigan. The partners secured a USDA Farm Market Promotion Program grant in 2014.

The group conducted a West Michigan Growers Fare at the Grand Rapids Downtown Market, drawing more than 400 attendees. The project involved more than 20 West Michigan farmers in a collaborative marketing effort. The goals were to increase CSA sales for the farmers, assist in continued development and organization of the West Michigan Growers Group, and increase CSA customer satisfaction and retention.

The event included educational presentations, a cooking demonstration, and take-home support material. During the Growers Fare, new relationships were formed among participating farmers and key partners that will lead to future collaborations.

This year, the partnership is focusing on building long-term viability of the West Michigan Growers Group. The group is engaging in a strategic planning process that will allow members to take control and leadership over the direction of the organization.

We thank Garrett for outstanding work and congratulate him on the CNRDA Community Partnership Award.

### Innovative Program Award

#### Introduction to Lakes Online Certificate Course

**Bindu Bhakta, Beth Clawson, Paige Filice, Terry Gibb, Jane Herbert, Jo A. Latimore, Gwyn Shelle, and Lois Wolfson**

Thanks to a team that developed a novel online course, lake enthusiasts and professionals have the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Michigan's inland lake ecology. A popular course was previously delivered in person across the state, but with nearly 11,000 lakes in Michigan, it was difficult to reach everyone who wanted to take the course.

The Introduction to Lakes Online Certificate Course team created a six-unit course that incorporates a fully modern and innovative combination of videos, interactive activities, discussion forums, quizzes, live chats with instructors, and more. The new course is the first online program developed and delivered by the Greening Michigan Institute natural resources work team.

Far exceeding expectations, 99 learners representing 40 Michigan counties and three other states registered for Introduction to Lakes Online, launched in fall 2015. Of those, 83 completed all of the course requirements and received certificates.

In an evaluation, 91 percent of learners reported that they plan to use the information learned to manage lakes, and 69 percent reported that they intended to share what they learned with others. Because of its high demand, the course is being offered again this fall.

We thank the Introduction to Lakes Online Certificate Course team for developing a new approach to reaching a broad audience and for promoting interactive discussion among learners interested in lakes. Congratulations on the CNRDA Innovative Program Award.

Wednesday, October 26, Lunch

## Raymond D. Vlasin Award for Program Excellence

### Ann Chastain

Ann Chastain helps leaders in natural resources, development, and public programs find ways to positively engage their communities to move forward. Knowing communities face controversial issues that affect residents, elected officials, and community leaders differently, she recognizes that leaders and officials sometimes struggle with community education, support, and decision-making.

Ann, an MSU Extension educator, designed and delivered workshops in Addressing Community Issues and Issues Framing to build local capacity to deal with controversial issues in communities, regions, and the state. The program received a Kettering Foundation grant to provide educational opportunities for approximately 200 individuals in communities and MSU Extension. It helped residents, elected officials, and community leaders consider the consequences and trade-offs of various aspects of contentious issues, and helped all parties make more informed decisions in the face of controversy. The program modeled the use of public dialogue and deliberation to hear the best scientific information within a framework of individual values.

Ann delivers educational programs statewide with a focus on helping participants develop skills in facilitation, conducting meetings, leadership, board governance, strategic visioning and planning, communication, conflict resolution, and related topics. She has a natural ability to build relationships with officials of local and state governments, nonprofits, and human service organizations. Through her programs, individuals develop stronger voices and become empowered to assume elected and appointed leadership roles in advancing community affairs.

We honor Ann for her work with community engagement and congratulate her on the Raymond D. Vlasin Award for Program Excellence.

MSU Extension  
Association Awards

## Epsilon Sigma Phi Association Awards

### Continued Excellence Award

#### Julie Chapin

The director of the MSU Extension Children and Youth Institute serves Michigan residents well by providing administrative leadership that moves the organization forward through partnership, funding, mentoring, and program guidance.

As institute director, Julie Chapin has successfully guided 150 staff members to expand programming and to increase grants and partnerships. As an example, early childhood development programming has expanded and MSU Extension staff members have become sought after as speakers and trainers at state and national professional association conferences.

Under Julie's leadership, the institute has secured almost \$4.36 million in grants and contracts. In 2015, she worked with the Michigan 4-H Foundation on the public launch of a \$12.5 million capital campaign. As a result of the effort, 38 of Michigan's 82 counties have created endowments.

Through a partnership with the Molina Foundation, MSU Extension has distributed more than 100,000 books to children across the state in the past 5 years.

As a result of Julie's leadership and the efforts of the Children and Youth Institute staff, participation in 4-H has grown to almost 203,000 youth in 2015.

Throughout her Extension career, Julie shown excellence in leadership and moving the organization forward. Congratulations on the Continued Excellence Award.

## Diversity and Multiculturalism - Individual Award

### Emily Proctor

Michigan has a Native American population of approximately 130,000 individuals and 12 federally recognized tribes. Each has a unique set of governance challenges and community needs.

Emily Proctor, a tribal MSU Extension educator, brought Extension to the table as a partner with MSU's Native American Institute and several tribal governments within the state to develop a training program for newly elected tribal leaders. Emily adapted the training program to fit cultural values and traditions through including culturally appropriate examples, case scenarios, and statistics. She makes educational delivery culturally appropriate for tribal audiences by including personal stories and encouraging participants to share their stories.

Emily builds and sustains relationships with Michigan Tribal Nations and community agencies. She collaborates with scholars and tribal experts to develop, deliver, and evaluate programs. Emily adapts Extension curricula to fit Michigan Tribal Nations government and includes Native American presenters in educational events. Among her accomplishments, she developed a workshop to create a format for open dialogue to explore methods of building sustainable relationships, allow reactive problem-solving, and provide resources for reference.

Emily facilitated a partnership with Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, a consortium of Michigan's federally recognized tribes. The partnership resulted in a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation supporting the Tribal Governance Program. Interested in creating a support system for tribal Extension, Emily created a partnership among Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota tribal programs. That resulted in the coordination of a 5-day course that helps communities launch and sustain initiatives and systemwide changes.

Because of her exemplary work, we are delighted to congratulate Emily on her Diversity and Multiculturalism Award.

## Michigan Association of Extension Agents Awards

### National Achievement Award

#### Frank Gublo

To meet the demand for products made or grown locally, Michigan needs skilled, creative entrepreneurs. But many entrepreneurs with the know-how to create products may not necessarily have the business acumen or resources to help their businesses take off.

Frank Gublo has served entrepreneurs in various roles for the past 9 years. He is an MSU Extension educator specializing in sustaining community prosperity in the Thumb region. He is also an innovation counselor with the MSU Product Center. Frank works to help entrepreneurs develop and commercialize their high-value products and businesses in food, agriculture, and natural resources. He has helped launch countless businesses across Michigan with a concentration of them in Midtown Detroit. He actively advises a rolling average of about 55 clients.

Frank and other colleagues collaborated with Detroit Public schools to create a student-operated food program in which students grow vegetables in the school's garden and hoop house at a postsecondary vocational center for special education students. The program, at the Charles R. Drew Transition Center, has helped expand the center's programming and student engagement.

As a result of Frank's work, local entrepreneurs are succeeding and providing Michigan residents with the products they need and want. The local food scene keeps expanding as he helps entrepreneurs develop their products and businesses.

Frank's unique set of skills and impact on Michigan entrepreneurs and students has earned him the National Association of County Agricultural Agents Achievement Award.

## National Distinguished Service Award

### Jim Isleib

It's difficult to take programming to Michigan's sparsely populated Upper Peninsula, home to 29 percent of the land area, but only 3 percent of the state's population. But MSU Extension educator Jim Isleib demonstrated how to turn a limitation – teachers often hundreds of miles away from learners – into a strength.

By capitalizing on new distance learning technologies, Jim brought the teachers to the learners' kitchen tables. In some cases for the first time, many specialists and educators were training UP audiences in real time.

Learners in the UP are no longer the only audience to benefit. Jim has expanded to offering his online training statewide. By opening his programs to the entire state, he has brought many into the digital age, and Extension is a better organization because of it.

Jim's ability to transform our organization and serve the needs of his constituents makes him most deserving of the National Distinguished Service Award.

## National Fact Sheet Award

Duke Elsner

## National Personal Column Award

Stanley Moore

## National Publication Award

Heidi M. Wollaeger

## National Search for Excellence in Farm and Ranch Financial Management Award

Phillip Durst

## National Learning Module or Notebook Finalist

Heidi Wollaeger

## Regional Audio Recording Award

James DeDecker

## Regional Newsletter Award

Heidi M. Wollaeger

## Regional Program Promotional Piece Award

Joanne Davidhizar

## State Computer Generated Graphics Presentation With Script Award

Phillip Durst

## State Feature Story Award

Stanley Moore

## State Published Photo and Caption Award

Phillip Tocco



## Michigan Association of Extension 4-H Youth Staff Awards

### National Distinguished Service Award

#### Betty Jo Krosnicki

With the world population projected to grow from 7.3 billion in 2015 to 9.7 billion by 2050, it will need a new generation of farmers, innovators, and leaders to increase food production and access in order to feed the growing population.

Betty Jo Krosnicki, MSU Extension 4-H youth educator, uses the 4-H Ag Innovators Experience to engage the next generation of Michigan farmers and leaders. The program involves 10,000 youth in states with a strong agricultural industry and background, and helps them learn and develop skills necessary to feed the world's growing population.

For this year's experience, called the Honey Bee Challenge, Betty Jo facilitated the program for youth of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. They learned, hands-on, about the role of honeybees in producing food and feeding our world. For another group of 4-H youth, Betty Jo organized a virtual meeting with youth from Poland to collaborate on a response to the challenge.

Betty Jo creates important experiences for youth in skill development and career preparation. This year, she organized a Teens as Teachers workshop to help young people develop and practice the skills they need to lead community programs. After the workshop, teens used what they learned to reach local audiences in their communities with a hands-on activity and then evaluated their progress. In the process, youth became actively engaged in their communities.

Betty Jo is growing 4-H leaders by providing programs in skill development, leadership, and career preparation. We congratulate her on the National Distinguished Award.

#### Janelle Stewart

We sometimes take for granted the creativity, innovation, and problem-solving skills that youth can contribute to their communities. It is important to help youth grow into community participants and leaders. We are fortunate to have people like Janelle Stewart in our organization who are passionate about engaging youth and helping them realize their potential.

Throughout her career, Janelle, an MSU Extension 4-H youth educator in Lenawee County, has facilitated this engagement. Janelle teaches classes in leadership, citizenship, and global education. Some of her signature programs are Youth-Adult Partnerships, Officer Training, Communication, Conflict Resolution, Teen Facilitation, Leadership, Running Effective Meetings, and much more. She teaches youth to engage, collaborate, and lead in their communities, and she teaches adults how to partner with them.

Janelle not only serves Michigan youth directly, she also serves on committees and teams that build engagement programs. Janelle is an indispensable member of the Leadership and Civic Engagement (LCE) work team. She also serves on the Advisory Resource team and is a member of the 4-H Capitol Experience steering committee, the Michigan 4-H State Youth Leadership Council advisory committee, and the steering committee for the 4-H Teen Leadership and Global Citizenship Spectacular.

Because of Janelle's service, Michigan is growing leaders with fresh perspectives and commitment to solving problems in their communities. Congratulations on the National Distinguished Service Award.

## National Meritorious Service Award

### Beverly Przystas

Communities need people who are familiar with their challenges, needs, and resources, and who have a long-term commitment to the community. This award honors long-term service, commitment, and participation in making MSU Extension better.

MSU Extension educator Beverly Przystas, having served her community throughout her career, is familiar to many 4-H families in the Gladwin County area. In 1979 she became the 4-H program assistant for Gladwin County. She developed many new programs for youth and formed strong partnerships with schools, the county fair, and human service agencies within the community. On becoming the 4-H youth agent, she provided more regional and statewide programming that included working with volunteers.

When she served as county MSU Extension director, Beverly worked closely with the county's economic development board, the parks and recreation board, and the Gladwin County Leadership Program, a program she initiated. She introduced the MSU Extension Master Gardener Program in 1996, and it is still going strong.

Beverly has given back to the organization by serving in association leadership and as a member of several statewide committees. She served as secretary and then president of the Michigan Association of Extension 4-H Youth Staff. She currently serves the Michigan Council of Extension Associations as secretary-treasurer.

In her contributions to youth development, Beverly has shown teamwork, integrity, and compassion for both youth and adult volunteers. Her passion for 4-H youth development has reached many youth, volunteers, the community, and her peers. We congratulate Beverly on a well-deserved Distinguished Service Award.

## Michigan Distinguished Service Award

### Jodi Schulz

In today's competitive and ever-changing world, all Michigan youth need opportunities to develop their skills – not only technical skills, but soft skills too. MSU Extension has educators who are committed to reaching out in their communities to provide these opportunities to underserved youth, in addition to mainstream youth.

Jodi Schulz is an MSU Extension educator who excels at serving underserved audiences. In 2011, she teamed up with Jodi Wrzesinski to expand the Harvest for All program, a partnership of Michigan Farm Bureau and Bay County 4-H, to the Bay County Juvenile Home. The pair worked with youth who raised chickens and donated the meat to Good Samaritan Rescue Mission in Bay City. The youth then created educational poster presentations about their experiences for the Bay County Fair.

Jodi has served MSU Extension for 14 years as an educator housed in Bay County. She focuses on youth development, volunteer management, resource development, and life skills development for youth across the state. Jodi has successfully sought funding for statewide programs, created resources and curricula, and expanded the outreach and diversity efforts of MSU Extension and the 4-H Youth Development program.

Jodi is passionate about in-school and after-school family enrichment programming, 4-H Special Interests (SPIN) club development, and life skills resources such as the Targeting Life Skills model.

Jodi thrives on creating new partnerships, developing creative programs and resources, and engaging underserved audiences. Congratulations on the Michigan Distinguished Service Award.

Wednesday, October 26, Lunch

### Michigan Colleagues Award

Thomas Guthrie  
Nicole Wethington

### Michigan Communicator Award

Helen-Ann Cordes

### Michigan Diversity Award

Kristi Ayers

### Michigan Excellence in Camping Award

Julie Thelen

### Michigan Excellence in Global Programming Award

Jan Brinn

### Michigan Partnership Award

AgroLiquid  
Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair LLC/Suburban Collection Showplace  
Michigan Milk Producers Association

### Michigan Presidential Citation

Melissa Elischer

### Michigan Team Effort Award

Kathy Fischer and Dana Wawrzyniec

MSU Extension  
Association Awards

## Michigan Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Awards

### Continued Excellence Award

Zelda Felix-Mottley

Often pulled in many directions at once, MSU Extension staff members have to balance programming and organizational tasks with building relationships in their communities. Zelda Felix-Mottley has been carrying on that balancing act for 23 years through serving Michigan residents and MSU Extension.

Based in Berrien County, the health and nutrition educator teaches face-to-face nutrition and physical activity workshops alongside her staff. She recruits agencies and other organizations to participate in MSU Extension programming. She builds relationships and rapport with legislators, commissioners, and community partners that, in turn, support MSU Extension. She is also actively involved in her community as a chair, co-chair, or member of several committees.

Zelda seeks out experiences that help her grow and give back to MSU Extension. She works as a supervising educator and as part of the district coordinator internship program, through which she is expanding her leadership skills and reach within the organization. She has been successful in securing financial and in-kind support for her programs.

We congratulate Zelda on her outstanding efforts to serve Michigan residents and MSU Extension, which has earned her the Continued Excellence Award.

## Michigan and National Distinguished Service Awards

### Diana Fair

One health concern affecting every state is the increasing number of adults and youth who are diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. Research shows that if blood glucose is controlled, the risk of developing complications decreases. Risks are preventable. It's critically important that people who have been diagnosed have access to research, resources, and education.

Diana Fair, a disease prevention and management educator in District 13, provides programs related to diabetes and other health issues. She partners with local hospitals, Area Agencies on Aging, and the health department.

Diana was instrumental in creating the National Extension Dining With Diabetes Work Group and she serves on its leadership team. In 2015, the Dining With Diabetes team was recognized at the National Health Outreach Conference for the program's positive impact on people's health.

Diana provides other important educational programming and engages on a national scale. She provides educational programs in food safety and food preservation as well as the Have a Healthy Baby and the Family Nutrition programs. Diana has served as both president and treasurer of the state affiliate of the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Whether working with a local community group, serving on a statewide research project, or leading a national work team, Diana says that working for Michigan State University Extension has been one of the most personally fulfilling experiences of her life.

We honor Diana for her work in health, nutrition, and disease prevention and congratulate her on the Distinguished Service Award.

### Shannon Lindquist

Social and emotional health involves social, mental, psychological, and spiritual aspects of an individual's life. Its development is a key factor in children's long-term academic and life success. Parents and teachers need access to programs that provide a holistic view of health and teach how to help youth grow.

Shannon Lindquist, a member of the Social and Emotional Development work team, provides these important programs in the seven counties of District 6. She facilitates training programs with parents and child care providers. She also works directly with youth and adults. She works with a diverse audience ranging from youth housed in a detention home, to adults working on anger issues, to middle school children training to become babysitters.

Throughout her career, Shannon has programmed in several areas: Family Nutrition Education Programs, Better Kid Care, All Students Achieve Program – Parent Involvement and Education (ASAP PIE), Mentoring, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP Ed), and the Growing Healthy – Parents of Preschoolers research program. She previously served as a supervising educator for SNAP Ed.

Shannon shares her leadership on state and national levels. A member of the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences since 2002, she served as president of the Michigan affiliate for 2 years and is now a regional director in the central area of Michigan.

We congratulate Shannon on a well-deserved Distinguished Service Award.

Wednesday, October 26, Lunch

## New Professional Award

Michelle Jarvie

## First Place National and Central Region Family Health and Wellness Award

Tracie Abram

Michelle Jarvie

## First Place National and Central Region Food Safety Award

Eileen Haraminac

Jeannie Nichols

Jane Hart

## First Place National and Central Region Human Development and Family Relationships Award

Holly Brophy-Herb

Alan Pilkenton

Maria Millet

Kylie Rymanowicz

Kendra Moyses

Carrie Shrier

## First Place National and Eastern Region Social Networking Award

Erica Tobe

## Third Place Central Region Communication Award for Educational Publication

Brenda Reau

## Third Place Central Region Communication Award for Internet Education Technology

Eileen Haraminac

Jeannie Nichols

Jane Hart

## Michigan Early Childhood Training Award

Kylie Rymanowicz

MSU Extension  
Administration Awards

## Promotions

The MSU Extension staff members listed below have earned promotions to the rank of senior status during this calendar year. We thank each of them for their significant contributions to MSU Extension.

### Earning Senior Status

Brian Klatt

Kendra Moyses

Jodi Schulz

Rob Sirrine

## Milestone Years of Service

The MSU Extension staff members listed in this section have marked employment milestones during this calendar year. We thank them all for their years of dedicated service to the organization.

### 35 or More Years of Service

Terri Badgley

Ronald Kinnunen

Stephen Stewart

Alicia Burnell

Janet Olsen

Annette Tijerina

Julie Chapin

Steven Poindexter

Robert Tritten

Dawn Contreras

Brenda Reau

Nancy Victorson

Kathryn Cummings

Marian Reiter

Thomas Dudek

Dean Solomon

## Milestone Years of Service (cont.)

### 30 Years of Service

Anne Brooks	Ann Smith
Joanne Davidhizar	Christine Venema
George Silva	

### 25 Years of Service

Robert Bricault	Amy Irish-Brown
Paul Gross	Stanley Moore
Gail Innis	

### 20 Years of Service

Janis Brinn	Nancy Persing
Patrick Cudney	Jean Schueller
Bruce Haas	Rosa Soliz
Michael Metzger	Kristina Swartzendruber

### 15 Years of Service

Valerie Albright	Jane Hart	Marilyn Thelen
Patricia Benton	Saneya Moore	Yolanda Thrash
Beth Clawson	Delores Muhammad	Holly Tired
Frank Cox II	Michelle Neff	Roxanne Turner
Linda Cronk	Catherine Patterson	Winifred Webb
Heather Hampel	Donna Pernell	Roxanne White
Corissa Harris	Patricia Spinella	Wendolyn Wieland

### 10 Years of Service

Pamela Allen-Walker	Joseph Hammontree	Karen Powers
Joseph Bixler	Tamara Harris	Jessica Price
Mary Bohling	Sheilah Hebert	Insa Raymond
Julia Darnton	Holly Lacina	Laurie Rivetto
Jacob DeDecker	Stephanie Marino	Carrie Shrier
Jeffrey Dwyer	Jacqueline Marks	Candis Thick
Joni Epps	Jackelyn Martin	Latoyia Thomas
Liana Graves	Kea Norrell-Aitch	
Francis Gublo	Suzanne Pish	

### 5 Years of Service

Brad Baughman	Rachel Kramer	Lorialyn Sabin
Veronica Bolhuis	Heather Middleton	Mary Schalk
Betsy Braid	Heidi Mudel	Mindy Tape
Sean Corp	Elliot Nelson	Leigh Theunick
Nona Gross	Margie Peck	Heather Triezenberg
Alan Jaros	Shirley Ringler	James Vincent



Betsy writing copy for this.



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