(Fort Collins, Colo.) Two Colorado State University Extension employees were recently honored for their contributions. The Alton Scofield Distinguished Service Award is Colorado State University Extension’s highest honor awarded to field staff. Mick Livingston, a 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent for the Golden Plains Area and Kit Carson County, received the award at Extension’s annual awards banquet in early November in Fort Collins. Livingston was nominated for the award by his peers in Extension and was chosen from a large pool of nominees. Livingston has been actively engaged in a variety of programs targeting youth education including AgFest, Wild Bug Fish Camp and the Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) program. AgFest alone reached more than 1200 youth in Eastern Colorado.

In nominating him, one person wrote, “Livingston is known for phone calls that start out with, “I was driving down the road thinking…” a sure sign that you are about to be drafted into a major work effort.” Livingston’s efforts reach statewide with some of the most creative ideas for teaching youth and getting them involved.

The F. A. Anderson award recognizes an Extension professional for outstanding performance throughout their Extension career. The award was presented to Susan Baker, associate professor and extension specialist for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program–Education (SNAP-Ed) programs in the CSU Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition.
For the F.A. Anderson award, one of her nominators wrote, “Susan is the model of success for CSU Extension and Colorado State University. She is successful at raising large amounts of money, she hires high quality and talented staff, she demands excellence and leads by example, she trains paraprofessional staff diligently, she is visionary yet pays high attention to detail, she brings a national reputation and instant credibility to the table, she embraces diversity, she walks her talk, and she is highly respected among our valued stakeholders.”

In addition to the Anderson award, Baker also received the Epsilon Sigma Phi Zeta (Colorado) Chapter’s Distinguished Service Award as well as the chapter’s Administrative Leadership Award. Presenters noted, “Susan has been a dynamic, passionate educator and leader in the nutrition and health field as an Extension professional in Colorado and prior to that in North Carolina.” Before moving to Colorado in 2004, she had spent 15 years with EFNEP education in North Carolina progressing from a county supervising position to the state coordinator. Baker has been the recipient of multiple grants to fund nutrition education. When funding became available from USDA for food stamp education, she received the first grant given to Extension in the southern region of the United States. Nominators also noted, “Susan is an outstanding educator and strong mentor of young professionals whether they be graduate students or Extension employees.” Baker has published numerous refereed articles, co-authored a book, and been an invited speaker, trainer and consultant.

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