# **Nutrition Symposium Focuses On Local Food Production**

BROOKINGS - Though agriculture is the state's No. 1 industry, some South Dakotans have limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables, according to Tianna Beare, Program Manager of the Ethel Austin Martin Program in Human Nutrition and coordinator of the E.A. Martin Symposium, to be held March 19 on the South Dakota State University campus.

"În sparsely populated areas, in particular, access to food is a challenge," Beare said. "As a result, these consumers often choose the food that's convenient rather than healthy.'

Speakers will discuss how social and geographical barriers create communities with limited access to fresh produce and how South Dakotans can overcome those obstacles through locally grown products.

The program on South Dakota's rural food environment begins at 3 p.m. in Room 169 of the South Dakota State University Student Union.

#### **PROGRAM LINEUP**

Professor Michael Wimberly, a senior scientist at the Geospatial Sciences Center of Excellence, will lead off at 3:10 p.m. with a geographical snapshot of food production in rural communities including the barriers to food access. His research looks at the impact of cli-



mate and land use change on ecosystems and human health.

At 4 p.m., Fred Waldner of the Orland Hutterian Brethren Colony near Montrose and Tim Glanzer of the Hillside Hutterian Brethren Colony near Doland will describe the process that the colonies follow to raise their own food. Waldner focuses on the typical planning and planting, while Glanzer talks about harvesting and preserving the produce.

At 5 p.m., a panel of three experts will discuss local food production. Julie Ross, who operates a sustainable Community Supported Agriculture farm north of Brookings, will focus on sustainability and the CSA

farm model. Community organizer Holly Tilton Byrne of Dakota Rural Action will describe her work to help local food producers find access to local markets. Suzanne Stluka, SDSU Ex-

tension Food and Families

Program Director, will cover food security in tribal and non-tribal areas. She is also the coordinator of a U.S. Department of Agricultural grant involving six land-grant institutions that aims to help remote communities gain greater access to healthy foods.

For more information on the symposium, contact Tianna Beare, Program Manager Ethel Austin Martin Program in Human Nutrition at Tianna.Beare@sdstate.edu or (605) 688-4661.

#### **ETHEL AUSTIN MARTIN** PROGRAM

Dr. Ethel Austin Martin graduated from SDSU in 1916 and was a distinguished nutritionist who was instrumental in developing research grant programs, instituting nutrition conferences, founding journals, and writing several nutrition textbooks. She established an endowment at SDSU with the ultimate objective of providing for a permanent professorship to ensure continuing high-level instruc-tion in the science of nutrition.

The purpose of the EA Martin Program in Nutrition is to advance knowledge in the science of human nutrition through a multidisciplinary approach, to encourage practical applications in improving human health, and to offer professional enrichment in nutrition for all students, faculty and staff at SDSU.

### **Students To Celebrate Ag Week**

American agriculture provides the necessities of everyday life: food, fiber, clothing and now fuel. That's the message that farmers will share with Milbank students to celebrate National Ag Week, which is March 15-21. Dairy farmer Vicki Schultz, Freeman; will join pork producer

Jim Petrik, Gayville; in visits with fourth graders at Webster Elementary. The dairy and hog farmer hope to educate students on how they care for their livestock and help them understand how South Dakota's number one industry affects nutrition and food supply, as well as agriculture's economic, social and environmental significance to all Americans.

The schedule for the classroom visit is as follows: Webster Elementary — Monday, March 16, at 2 p.m. "The impact on South Dakota's economy alone from agricul-

ture is over \$20 billion," Richard Vasgaard, Ag United President and Centerville farmer, said. "And on a national scale, agriculture is America's number one export. But it's still easy to take agriculture for granted. We want to instill an appreciation for agriculture in our local youth, advance an awareness of South Dakota's contribution and promote agricultural literacy.'

Ag United will do more than talk; they're providing a pizza party too. During the visit, producers will help the students understand that the ingredients in the pizza are produced by farms, and also explain how those products are then processed and made into the pizzas that the students are enjoying.

In addition to the visit in Yankton, Ag United, along with its coalition members, Associated Milk Producers, Valley Queen Cheese, and Land O'Lakes will sponsor Ag Day pizza party events for fourth and fifth graders at schools in Watertown, Sioux Falls, Brandon, Mitchell and Milbank.

Ag Day provides a great opportunity for South Dakota agricultural producers to share the story of where food comes from," added Vasgaard. "And for many of these students this is their first opportunity to learn about agriculture from actual producers." An information booth on Ag United and Ag Day will be on dis-

play at the Washington Pavilion Saturday, March 21. Each year, the National Ag Day program helps educate millions of consumers. The Agriculture Council of America, organizers of

National Ag Day, believes that every American should understand how food, fiber and renewable resources are produced, and value the essential role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products. National Ag Day focuses on educating Americans about the industry, so they can also consider career opportunities in food, fiber, and the renewable resource industry.

Ag United for South Dakota is a coalition of farm organizations with a goal of keeping family farms growing. Coalition members include the South Dakota Cattleman's Association, the South Dakota Corn Growers Association, the South Dakota Dairy Producers, South Dakota Farm Bureau, South Dakota Pork Producers Council, South Dakota Poultry Industries Association and the South Dakota Soybean Association. To learn more, visit www.agunited.org.

To learn more about National Ag Day, contact the Agricultural Council of America at (913) 491-1895 or visit www.agday.org.

### **Department Of Revenue Offers Tax Seminars**

The South Dakota Department of Revenue announces two educational training courses available in Yankton Wednesday, March 18. These courses are free to attend for those who register.

The Basic Sales Tax course is a three-hour seminar from 9 a.m. to noon that teaches attendees:

• How and when to apply for a tax license for their business

• The exemptions from sales and use taxes that are available

• How use tax applies businesses

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• Municipal taxes • Purchases for resale

• How to file returns The Contractors' Excise Tax course is a threehour seminar from 1-4 p.m. that teaches attendees:

• How and when to apply for a contractors' excise tax license

· Projects for qualifying utilities and governmental agencies

• Prime and subcontractors, sales and use tax • Owner-furnished materials

• Reservation projects • How to file excise tax returns

Three CPE credits and 0.3 CEU credits are also available and are awarded for those who apply for them and attend the full seminar.

The courses will be held at the Avera Sacred Heart Pavilion at 409 Summit St. in Yankton. Individuals interested in registering for these semi-nars can call Jean Person at 605-773-5445 or register online at https://apps.sd.gov/rv23e ducation/classes.aspx/.



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### **HCS's Campus Under Construction**

Yankton Clothing Closet wants to thank the public for its patience during

HCS's campus construction. To reach the Clothing Closet, you enter the road to the Kanner Building (driver's license station), continue north, turn right at the stop sign, then turn left at the Mead Museum, The clothing closet is located in the basement of the Kyle Building behind the Mead Museum.

The Clothing Closet will host a Winter Clearance/Free Voucher Day Friday, March 20, from 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. For More information call 605-668-3248 or 605-668-3375.





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