

Linda Langelo is NCHD Public Health's Shining Star

Written by Holyoke Enterprise



Linda Langelo, horticulture coordinator for the Golden Plains Area Extension, was recently selected as Phillips County Public Health's Shining Star.

According to Jodi Murray, who nominated her for the award, Langelo was instrumental in starting the Holyoke Community Garden and working with the WIC program. This past year, approximately 20 families signed up to work at the garden.

"Linda was diligently there working alongside them, making sure that even the young children had a part of growing the vegetables."

She added Langelo was always aware most of the volunteers were first time gardeners, and she made them part of the process in planning, tilling, planting, watering, weeding and harvesting.

Murray also commended Langelo's teaching methods, saying she offers wonderful tips and her classes are fun.

"Linda gets involved with the community and has great ideas and goals for getting families excited about growing produce and sharing the rewards of combined hard work," she said.

The Northeast Colorado Health Department honored six people as public health shining stars during the April 29 Board of Health meeting. This was the second annual awards ceremony.

"This award is an opportunity for our employees to look around their counties and recognize the public health efforts of others," said John Crosthwait, NCHD's district public health administrator.

"We work with so many individuals and agencies that really foster our mission of building healthy communities that we wanted to establish a tradition to publicly acknowledge those who have a positive impact on the health of the public."

According to Crosthwait, the honorees are nominated by health department staff.

Other recipients include Kerri Hansen of Yuma, Darla Brennemann of Fort Morgan, Dr. Paula Frantz of Sterling, Pam Blochowicz of Julesburg and George Severin of Washington County.