

AgrAbility e-Note

June 2009

National AgrAbility Project News

The next AgrAbility all-staff call is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28 at 3:00 EDT / 2:00 CDT / 1:00 MDT / 12:00 PDT. The NAP plans to send out the agenda and call-in numbers a couple weeks prior to the call.

Gail Deboy, NAP Project Engineer, is scheduled to present a paper at The Clock Is Ticking for Rural America: A Behavioral Health & Safety Conference sponsored by AgriWellness, Inc. [More](#)

AgrAbility will be represented at several national events in June, including: the Amputee Coalition of America Annual Conference, National Institute on Farm Safety, RESNA Annual Conference, ASABE Annual International Meeting, and the Goodwill Industries 2009 Delegate Assembly. [More](#)

The new AgrAbility logo is now available without the drop shadow. This style may work better for some applications. Please contact Paul Jones at jonesp@purdue.edu if you would like this version.

State and Regional AgrAbility Project News

California

CalAgrAbility staff attended training to enhance skills in working with the older farming population. The Sacramento Ergonomics Roundtable sponsored a half-day workshop on the "Aging Worker." [More](#)

CalAgrAbility bilingual staff have been working in rural areas conducting outreach work during events related to La Raza and Cinco de Mayo, where large numbers of farm workers gather. [More](#)

Colorado

Vince Luke and Jill Sump were invited to present a training session at the quarterly meeting of the Colorado DVR Rehabilitation Counselors for Entrepreneurship (the self-employment specialists). [More](#)

Colorado AgrAbility welcomes Stephanie Carpenter to the team! Stephanie is an

occupational therapy student at Colorado State University. [More](#)

Idaho

Idaho AgrAbility conducted a training session for OTs, PTs, VR Counselors, and school personnel at the AT Expo held in Twin Falls, ID. The training focused on AgrAbility and the culture and hazards of farming/ranching. [More](#)

The Idaho AgrAbility Project conducted several training sessions for the FFA members at their state convention and will host a presentation in June for the FFA state competition in Moscow, Idaho June 4th and 5th. [More](#)

Indiana

The Indiana AgrAbility Project and the National AgrAbility Project presented *An Introduction to Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship for People with Disabilities*, the first presentation in the AgrAbility Webinar Series. [More](#)

Oklahoma

AgrAbility Council Member Paul Parham, USDA/NRCS Soil Conservation Technician, presented AgrAbility information, brochures, adapted garden tools and other assistive technology to the Oklahoma NRCS Civil Rights Advisory Committee on May 19. [More](#)

Oklahoma AgrAbility Project partnered with the Oklahoma State University, School of Architecture's student organization, *Freedom by Design*, to provide assistive technology to an Oklahoma farmer in need of a mounting block that would enable him to get on and off his horse more safely and easily. [More](#)

Amanda Erichsen, Extension Assistant, completed Web Accessibility Training at the Information Technology Accessibility Conference May 27 and 28. [More](#)

Pennsylvania

Penn State University Agricultural Greek organizations recently raised over \$700 to help a Somerset County dairy farmer. [More](#)

Wyoming

Wyoming AgrAbility, along with the Wyoming Geriatric Center, Wyoming VA Medical Center, and UW School of Pharmacy presented, *Falls Prevention*, at the 2009 Wyoming Conference on Aging. [More](#)

Mary Monteith, AgrAbility assistive technology specialist, conducted a breakout session, *Assistive Technology: More than Being Left to Your Own Devices* at the 2009 Wyoming Conference on Aging. [More](#)

Carla Wilhite and Sarah Perry, AgrAbility occupational therapist and, presented a session, *Physical Rehabilitation Issues of Wyoming Ranchers and Farmers* at the Promoting a Better Future for OT in Wyoming Conference. [More](#)

Wyoming AgrAbility staff recently conducted a training on AT: Enabling Individuals to Maintain Independence at the WY Conference on Aging in Cheyenne, WY. [More](#)

Staff Changes

Wisconsin

After many years of service to AgrAbility, Mary Beck took a position with another organization at the beginning of June. [Read a goodbye note from Mary](#)

Colorado

Colorado AgrAbility welcomes Stephanie Carpenter to the team! Stephanie is an occupational therapy student at Colorado State University. She applied to do one of her Level II Fieldwork assignments with AgrAbility. She will be spending the next 3 months gaining practical therapy experience under the supervision of CAP Project Manager Jill Sump, OTR/L. Say "hi" to Stephanie at agrabilityintern@eastersealscolorado.org

AgrAbility in the News

[Click here for news stories featuring AgrAbility projects](#)

- Colorado AgrAbility: Connecting to National & Local Resources
- Oklahoma AgrAbility Assists Agricultural Producers
- Morrisville Woman Grateful for Farm Modifications
- Farm Modifications Help Local Farmer

[Click here for other news of interest to AgrAbility staff members](#)

- Questions from end of stair-climbing wheelchair
- Agri-tourism on the Rise
- Triathlete's recovery spurs empathy for paralyzed troops
- Gardening and Arthritis Video

[Click here for professional development events related to AgrAbility](#)

Problems? Contact Clifford Racz, National AgrAbility Project, racz@purdue.edu

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AgrAbility e-Note

June 2009

National Project

Gail Deboy, NAP Project Engineer, is scheduled to present a paper at The Clock Is Ticking for Rural America: A Behavioral Health & Safety Conference sponsored by AgriWellness, Inc. Gail's paper is titled "Addressing Mental/Behavioral Health Issues in the Agricultural Population Impacted by Disabilities through the USDA-Sponsored AgrAbility Program." The conference is scheduled for August 3-5, 2009, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and more information is available at www.agriwellness.org/ConfInfo.htm. AgrAbility staff who want to learn more about behavioral/mental health in relation to farm, ranch and rural settings might consider attending.

Submitted by: Gail Deboy

AgrAbility will be represented at several national events in June, including:

- Amputee Coalition of America Annual Conference. Kathy Waldera of the Northwestern University Prosthetics Research Laboratory will represent the NAP.
- National Institute on Farm Safety (NIFS). Bill Field will represent AgrAbility, along with several staff members from SRAPs.
- RESNA Annual Conference. Steve Swain will give a presentation on working with veterans and will staff a display.
- ASABE Annual International Meeting. Sam Mathew will give a presentation on assistive technology assessments, and Bill Field will be honored as an ASABE Fellow.
- Goodwill Industries 2009 Delegate Assembly. Eric Olson, Bill Field, and Paul Jones will represent AgrAbility and have the BNG accessible tractor on hand.

Submitted by: Paul Jones

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AgrAbility e-Note

June 2009

California

CalAgrAbility staff attended training to enhance skills in working with the older farming population. The Sacramento Ergonomics Roundtable sponsored a half-day workshop on the "Aging Worker." In addition, CalAgrAbility has been working with the California STOP FALLS network to identify best practices in fall prevention and to help farming communities offer fall prevention programs to older people who are at risk of falling and decreasing mobility. The Project has encountered several consumers who are a high risk of injury from falls. Staff attended the annual conference in May

CalAgrAbility bilingual staff have been working in rural areas conducting outreach work during events related to La Raza and Cinco de Mayo, where large numbers of farm workers gather. As the 1 million-strong farm workforce migrates from Mexico, the California Office of Migrant Housing has asked CalAgrAbility to collaborate on information dissemination to migrant centers throughout the state regarding Swine Flu issues.

Submitted by: Martha Stiles

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AgrAbility e-Note

June 2009

Colorado

Vince Luke and Jill Sump were invited to present a training session at the quarterly meeting of the Colorado DVR Rehabilitation Counselors for Entrepreneurship (the self-employment specialists). The presentation included an overview AgrAbility and specific case studies of AgrAbility/DVR partnerships around the state, emphasizing how both agencies benefit from such cooperation.

Submitted by: Vince Luke

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Conference Information

Who: OT, COTA, PT, PTA, Extension, VR Professionals

What: 1.5 CEUs=15 PDU=15 contact hours approved through Colorado State University and AOTA

Cost: \$150 registration fee for professionals and \$40 fee for students

When: Friday June 26 9:00AM-5:00 PM
Saturday June 27 8:00AM-5:00PM

Where: Colorado State University's ARDEC facility: 4614 NE Frontage Road Ft. Collins, CO 80524

How to Register: Return form and make payment to:
Easter Seals Colorado-AgrAbility
3755 W. Alameda Ave.
Lakewood, CO 80226
Fax: 303-233-1028

For information or questions contact:
Jill Sump by calling toll-free
1-877-279-1638 x224 or emailing at
jsump@eastersealscolorado.org

Cancellation Policy: In the event that the workshop is cancelled, participants will be notified 48 hours before the event and a full refund of the registration fee will be issued to the participants. In the event a participant cancels his/her registration, a full registration refund will be issued if notification has been received one week prior to the event. If less than one week notification is provided no registration fees will be refunded. Additionally, no refund for incurred or unincurred expenses of the participants for lodging, travel, or meals.

This material is based upon work supported by the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, under special project number 2006-41590-03405.

Course Objectives

- To recognize the cultural influences and stressors on farm life
- To understand the temporal, physical, and psychological aspects of farm work and the farm environment
- To understand the financial, physical and psychological impact of disability on farm life
- To accurately assess the farmer through interviews, observations and clinical measurements
- To identify, initiate and adjust treatment methods to facilitate increased functioning related to work demands

What is AgrAbility?

Colorado AgrAbility is a partnership between Colorado State University Extension and Easter Seals Colorado to promote independence in agriculture for Colorado's farmers, ranchers, and families impacted by disability issues.

We provide on-the-farm assessment services, education and information on assistive technologies, work and equipment modifications, and accessibility for farm and ranch home and workplace.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
GOLDEN, CO.
Permit Number 1133

Easter Seals Colorado
5785 W. Alameda Ave.
Lakewood, CO 80226
Phone: 303-927-7113 x224
Email: jsump@eastersealscolorado.org




Rehabilitating the Colorado Farmer & Rancher

June 26-27, 2009
Fort Collins, CO
1.5 CEUs=15 contact hours
\$150 registration fee for professionals
\$40 registration fee for students



APR 09
NASC
NATIONAL ANIMAL CARE
APPROVED PROVIDER PROGRAM

Colorado OT/PT/ Professionals Training 2009

Did you know when you discharge a farmer home, you are sending them to an industrial worksite?

Agriculture in Colorado is a multi-million dollar industry, but also one of the leading causes of occupational injury and illness. Occupational therapists and physical therapists play an important role in preparing farmers and ranchers to return home after they have sustained an injury or acquired a disability.

When home also includes the workplace, special considerations are needed to ensure a safe transition. This workshop will help health professionals, extension and vocational rehabilitation professionals become more culturally and clinically competent providers of care for the agricultural population.

The conference will be held at Colorado State University's Agricultural Research Development and Educational Center (ARDEC), providing attendees with both time in the classroom and the exposure to a working farm and ranch to learn practical interventions to promote the independence of farm and ranch family members affected by disabilities.



Agenda

Friday June 26, 2009 9:00 AM—5:00 PM

- Welcome, Introductions, and Pre-Evaluations
- Colorado AgrAbility Overview
- Farm Culture
- Introduction to Agriculture: Terms, Tasks, Seasons
- Farm Environments and Tasks
- Livestock Handling
- Case Study

Saturday June 27, 2009 8:00 AM—5:00 PM

- Farm/Ranch Operations and Equipment Tour
- Farm Site Assessment, Accessibility and Assistive Technology
- Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Resources
- Capstone: Case Studies Session
- Case Studies Group Reports

Presenters

Bob Fetsch, PhD, Extension Specialist
Dr. Fetsch is a researcher, lecturer, and principal investigator of the Colorado AgrAbility Project.

Carla Wilhite, MNM, OTR/L
Ms. Wilhite has worked extensively in agricultural health and rehabilitation. She is an assistant professor at University of North Dakota-Casper College OT Department.

Jill Sump, MSOT, OTR/L
Ms. Sump was raised on a farm and now uses her OT skills to assist agriculture producers as Colorado AgrAbility Project Manager.

Vince Luke
Mr. Luke works as the case manager for Colorado AgrAbility Project. His work and educational background encompasses health promotion and work with adults who have developmental disabilities.

Directions to ARDEC

- From the intersection of Mulberry St. (HWY 14) and I-25
- Drive north on I-25 to Exit 271 (Mountain Vista Drive)
- Proceed east to the East Frontage Road
- Turn left onto East Frontage Road
- Travel 3 miles north to County Rd. 56
- Turn right on County Rd. 56
- Turn left into Building #4053
- Workshop is held in the classroom



Professional Feedback

"Craig Hospital truly appreciates the services of the Colorado AgrAbility Project. Our farm families have concerns in regard to how they'll get around the farm or operate their farm equipment once they get back home. The knowledge AgrAbility provides to our patients enables them to regain the confidence that they can return to productive farming and, above all, do it safely. I have seen the smiles on our patients' faces when they realize that with the aid of Colorado AgrAbility they can return to the lifestyle they love." - Joe Gomez, Therapeutic Recreation Department Director, Craig Hospital

"I found the training to be the best I have received regarding using personal and practical examples that are highly relevant and easy to understand and apply. The materials I received and the "hands on" experiences will assist me when working with the farmer/rancher in the future. I have recommended all staff in my region to attend the training in the future." - Candis Leathers, MA, Regional Program Supervisor # North and North East Colorado DVR

Registration

Please complete and mail in registration with fee by

Profession:	June 12, 2009	Price:
<input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Therapist		\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> OT Assistant		\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Therapist		\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> PT Assistant		\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension		\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Vocational Rehabilitation		\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Professional		\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Student		\$80
Total:		_____

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Phone _____

Method of Payment:

- Check
- Visa 3-digit card security number _____
- MasterCard
- American Express

Credit Card # _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____

Name (as appears on credit card) _____

Billing Address (for credit card) _____

Please note any accommodations you might need. _____

The assignment of AOTA CEU's does not imply endorsement of specific course content, products, or clinical procedures by AOTA.

Friday, June 26

Welcome, Introductions, and Pre-Evaluations Presenter(s): Bob Fetsch	9:00-9:15
Colorado AgrAbility Overview Presenter(s): Bob Fetsch	9:15-9:45
BREAK	9:45-10:00
Farm Culture Presenter(s): Bob Fetsch	10:00-11:30
Introduction to Agriculture: Terms, Tasks, Seasons Presenter(s): Vince Luke	11:30-12:00
LUNCH	12:00-12:45
Farm Environments and Tasks Presenter(s): Jill Sump	12:45-2:00
Livestock Handling Presenter(s): Wilhite, Fetsch, Luke, Sump, ARDEC Staff	2:00-3:15
BREAK	3:15-3:30
Case Study and Videos Presenter(s): Carla Wilhite, Jill Sump	3:30-5:00

Saturday, June 27

Bagels/Sweet Rolls/Coffee/Juice	7:45-8:00
Introduction to Farm Operations Demonstrations Presenter(s): Vince Luke	8:00-8:15
Farm/Ranch Operations and Equipment Presenter(s): Wilhite, Fetsch, Luke, Sump, ARDEC Staff	8:15-12:00
LUNCH	12:00-12:30
Farm Site Assessment, Accessibility, and Assistive Technology Presenter(s): Carla Wilhite	12:30-2:00
Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Presenter(s): Pablo Sandoval	2:00-2:45
BREAK	2:45-3:00
Resources Presenter(s): Vince Luke	3:00-3:30
Capstone: Case Studies Presenter(s): Carla Wilhite, Jill Sump	3:30-4:45
Conclusion and Post-Evaluations Presenter(s): Bob Fetsch	4:45-5:00

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Idaho

Idaho AgrAbility conducted a training session for OTs, PTs, VR Counselors, and school personnel at the AT Expo held in Twin Falls, ID. The training focused on AgrAbility and the culture and hazards of farming/ranching.

The Idaho Agrability Project conducted several training sessions for the FFA members at their state convention and will host a presentation in June for the FFA state competition in Moscow, Idaho June 4th and 5th.

The Idaho Agrability Project is searching for people with AT needs that a Bishop Kelly High school design class can assist in order to participate in the 2009-2010 JETS/AbilityOne NEDC national competition. Please contact: Kathy Griffin kgriffin@idahocat.org

Submitted by: Kathy Griffin

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AgrAbility e-Note

June 2009

Indiana

The Indiana AgrAbility Project and the National AgrAbility Project presented the first in a series of webinars : *An Introduction to Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship for People with Disabilities*. The webinar, presented by Steve Swain, examined why self-employment may be an option, who is suited for self-employment, and how self-employment should be explored. Over sixty people participated in the May 28th training. The webinar will be archived on the new National AgrAbility Project website in the near future for those who are interested but could not participate.

Submitted by: Steve Swain

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AgrAbility e-Note

A monthly update for AgrAbility Projects

June 2009

Oklahoma

AgrAbility Council Member Paul Parham, USDA/NRCS Soil Conservation Technician, presented AgrAbility information, brochures, adapted garden tools and other assistive technology to the Oklahoma NRCS Civil Rights Advisory Committee on May 19.

Oklahoma AgrAbility Project partnered with the Oklahoma State University, School of Architecture's student organization, *Freedom by Design*, to provide assistive technology to an Oklahoma farmer in need of a mounting block that would enable him to get on and off his horse more safely and easily.

Students Aaron Douglas and Sonoka Iwama travelled to the farm with AgrAbility staff to view the horse trailer and see first-hand the need for the mounting block.

"We came back and hit the drawing boards. We met as a group, brainstormed as many different ideas we could generate and came up with the best solution for our client." said Aaron Douglas "The portable set of steps we created are larger than a normal mounting block as his horse is almost 16 hands tall. We worked closely with the Architecture Mentor Mohammed Bilbeisi, RA and the Engineering Mentor Carisa Ramming, PE to ensure we used the safest and most appropriate types of materials." Douglas said.

OkAT (Oklahoma Assistive Technology Foundation) provided the funding needed to purchase the materials for the project. "This is a very unique opportunity for Oklahoma AgrAbility, OkAT and Freedom by Design to coordinate efforts. We are looking forward to working with future students in designing assistive technology for our farmers and ranchers with disabilities." said Sandra Stevenson, Oklahoma AgrAbility, Program Manager.

Freedom by Design (FBD) is an American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) led program that utilizes the talents of architecture students in service to their communities by helping individuals with physical challenges. For further information about FBD, visit their web-site at www.aias.org/freedom.

Amanda Erichsen, Extension Assistant, completed Web Accessibility Training at the Information Technology Accessibility Conference May 27 and 28.

Oklahoma AgrAbility staff also participated in the Langston University Small Farmer's Conference on the Oklahoma City Campus on May 27-29.

Submitted by: Amanda Erichsen

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AgrAbility e-Note

June 2009

Pennsylvania

Penn State University Agricultural Greek organizations recently raised over \$700 to help a Somerset County dairy farmer. Members of Delta Theta Sigma, Alpha Zeta, and Alpha Gamma Rho fraternities, and Sigma Alpha sorority, gathered the funds through a Penny War campaign sponsored by AgrAbility for Pennsylvanians. The donation was presented to AgrAbility client Timothy Murray.

"I am the 4th generation to farm here," explains the soft-spoken Murray regarding the lovely dairy farm tucked into the hills of southern Somerset County. "I can't imagine being anywhere else or doing anything differently, no matter how challenging farming becomes."

In addition to the challenges all dairy farmers face, such as wildly fluctuating milk prices and high input costs, Murray copes with the additional hardship of a nearly 10-year-old hip replacement. For the 54-year-old Murray, that has meant difficulty in walking extensively around the farm; managing steps and ladders on tractors and silo; and the repetitive bending required in his tie-stall milking barn.

Murray's grown sons, Eric and Jared, help out as much as possible, though both also have full time jobs off the farm. So when Murray's fellow farm neighbors mentioned the help they had received from AgrAbility for Pennsylvanians, he decided to contact the program, as well.

AgrAbility project coordinator Linda Fetzer responded to Murray's inquiry by doing an on-farm visit and site assessment. Fetzer discussed the specific tasks that had become most difficult for Murray, and created a list of recommended equipment and modifications that she felt would be most helpful to the dairyman.

Fetzer linked Mr. Murray with the PA Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and completed the eligibility process. "AgrAbility, OVR, and Mr. Murray worked together to make a list of priority modifications for the farm operation that will enable Mr. Murray to complete his farm tasks" explains Fetzter.

Through OVR, Murray was eligible to receive assistance to purchase step kits for the farm's tractors; speed hitches to accommodate less trips on and off tractors; a tractor seat that provided greater comfort and suspension; and a feed cart and bins to decrease the amount of lifting required for daily feeding

chores.

"The funds that he received from OVR were a huge help but it did require a cost share of 20% that Mr. Murray needed to pay for the modifications," says Fetzter. "Mr. Murray was working to meet the required match, however, with seriously low milk prices and some other set-backs, it was a challenge. The funds raised by the Penn State students will help his situation significantly."

Penn State's ag fraternities have been participating in this AgrAbility fundraiser for several years. "Service in an important component of our fraternity experience," says Cory Chelko, Chairman of Philanthropy at Delta Theta Sigma, the lead fundraising fraternity of the organizations. "Many of us were raised on farms ourselves, and most of us plan to work in either agricultural production or business. We are glad to help farm families with our fundraising efforts."

AgrAbility for Pennsylvanians helps individuals who are coping with many different kinds of physical challenges, including arthritis, stroke, knee and back problems, amputations, vision and hearing disabilities, and many others. The project is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture and is a partnership of Penn State Cooperative Extension, Easter Seals Central Pennsylvania, and the PA Assistive Technology Foundation. For more information about the project, or to find out how AgrAbility can help you or someone you know, call toll free in PA to 800-416-6061. The project may also be found on the web at <http://AgExtEd.cas.psu.edu/agrab/>.

Submitted by: Crystal Smithmyer

AgrAbility e-Note

June 2009

Wisconsin

Goodbye from Mary Beck

Hello AgrAbility Colleagues,
I'm writing to let you know that I will be leaving AgrAbility for another position starting June 4th. I will be developing an employment training and technical assistance center for the MIG Managed Care program here in Wisconsin. Bob Meyer, formerly with the National Project, will assume my responsibilities.

I have been with AgrAbility since 2002, first with the National Project and then this past 10 months with AgrAbility of Wisconsin. It has been a wonderful adventure and I have learned a great deal. I firmly believe in the AgrAbility purpose and will continue to praise its merits! Keep up the good work!

Mary

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Wyoming

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Mary Monteith, AgrAbility assistive technology specialist, conducted a breakout session, *Assistive Technology: More than Being Left to Your Own Devices* at the 2009 Wyoming Conference on Aging. (May 20).

Sarah Perry, AgrAbility occupational therapist, and Carla Wilhite of the University of North Dakota and, presented a session, *Physical Rehabilitation Issues of Wyoming Ranchers and Farmers* at the Promoting a Better Future for OT in Wyoming Conference. (April 18).

Wyoming AgrAbility staff recently conducted a training called *AT: Enabling Individuals to Maintain Independence* at the WY Conference on Aging in Cheyenne, WY.

Submitted by: Mary Fick Monteith

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AgrAbility e-Note

June 2009

AgrAbility in the News

Colorado AgrAbility: Connecting to National & Local Resources

May-June 2009

Rocky Mountain Union Farmer

Programs mentioned: Colorado AgrAbility, National AgrAbility

Oklahoma AgrAbility Assists Agricultural Producers

May 2009

Oklahoma - Payne County FSA News

Programs mentioned: OK AgrAbility

[Read Story](#)

Morrisville Woman Grateful for Farm Modifications

5/27/09

The World

Programs mentioned: Vermont AgrAbility, Vermont Center for Independent Living

[Read Story](#)

Farm Modifications Help Local Farmer

5/14/09

News & Citizen

Programs mentioned: Vermont AgrAbility, Vermont Center for Independent Living

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AgrAbility e-Note

June 2009

Other News

Questions from end of stair-climbing wheelchair

The nation's first stair-climbing wheelchair hit the market with a bang but disappeared with a whimper, a casualty of price that raises a big question: How much will society agree to pay for high-tech help for the disabled? [Read Story](#)

Agri-tourism on the Rise

Prompted by the lack of money to spend on vacations, people around the world will turn to agri-entertainment and -tourism—new, highly consumer-focused types of agriculture. These areas may offer additional options for diversification and add stability to farm incomes. To attract these tourists, farmers have invented a wide variety of "entertainment farming" options. [Read Story](#)

Triathlete's recovery spurs empathy for paralyzed troops

University of Georgia is a triathlete Matthew Sanchez, 20, made most of his recovery from a neck injury and will be doing a charity ride across the country to raise money for the SHARE Initiative, which helps with the recovery and treatment of Iraq War veterans. [Read Story](#)

Gardening and Arthritis Video

Gardening and Arthritis is a new video on a DVD produced as a resource for people with arthritis, at risk of arthritis or other physical disability. A team consisting of staff from the Wisconsin Arthritis Program, University of Wisconsin Digital Media Services, Brown County UW-Extension and Wisconsin

Nutrition and Physical Activity Program prepared this video. Presentations include: gardening can be difficult for those diagnosed with arthritis, picking the right tool for the job and a master gardener with arthritis and MS describing her experiences. To obtain a DVD please contact Bill Wright, Organic Learning Center, Brown County UW-Extension, 1150 Bellevue, Green Bay, WI 54302, phone 920-391-4658.

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AgrAbility e-Note

June 2009

Upcoming Events

* new addition this month

Name 2009 Amputee Coalition of America Annual Conference
Dates June 18-21, 2009
City, State Atlanta, GA
Info/web link <http://www.amputee-coalition.org/conference/index.html>

Name Arthritis Foundation Self Help Program
Dates June 18- July 23, 2009
City, State Stillwater, OK 74078
Contact Sandra Stevenson, Program Manager
Info/web link 888-885-5588

sandra.stevenson@okstate.edu

Name * Horseshoe daze (community Agriculture event)
Dates June 20, 2009
City, State New Plymouth, Idaho
Contact Robert Renteria
Info/web link www.idahoagrability.org

Name RESNA 2009 Annual Conference
Dates June 23-27, 2009
City, State New Orleans, LA
Info/web link <http://www.resna.org/conference/index.php>

Name * Precision Ag Field Day
Dates June 23, 2009
City, State Kendrick, Idaho
Contact Robert Renteria
Info/web link www.idahoagrability.org

Name * Rehabilitating the Colorado Farmer and Rancher workshop
Dates June 26-27, 2009
City, State Fort Collins , CO

Contact Info/web link	Jill Sump OTR/L, 877-279-1638 x224 jsump@eastersealscolorado.org Program brochure Schedule of events
Name	I.L. Summit 2009 presenters: Ray Drake (VR) and Brad Marsh (SIL)
Dates	June 28-30, 2009
City, State	Columbia, MO
Contact Info/web link	More info (PDF)
Name *	Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services – How AgrAbility Can Help You Instructor: Sandra Stevenson, Program Manager
Dates	June 29, 2009
City, State	Tulsa, OK
Contact Info/web link	Sandra Stevenson, sandra.stevenson@okstate.edu
Name *	Grand re-opening, Idaho Center for Assistive technology
Dates	June 30, 2009
City, State	Boise, Idaho
Contact Info/web link	Robert Renteria, www.idahocat.org
Name *	Wisconsin Farm Technology Days
Dates	July 21-23, 2009
City, State	Waterloo, WI
Contact Info/web link	www.dodgefarmtech.com www.wifarmtechnologydays.com
Name *	Rural Rehabilitation: Agricultural Assessment and Accommodation/ A Two-Day Workshop for Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, and Vocational Rehabilitation Specialists
Dates	September 11-12, 2009
City, State	Lewisburg, WV
Contact Info/web link	Inetta Fluharty: (304) 771-8747 366 Frew Circle, Middleborne, WV 26149 ifluharty@rcvideo.com

Register now!

For the most comprehensive training conference to be offered in Missouri this year;

I.L. Summit 2009

Sunday through Tuesday, June 28-30, 2009
Courtyard by Marriott, Columbia, Missouri

This summer's I.L. Summit is a special opportunity for Missouri's Independent Living Centers because it is three conferences in one place at one time. Selected for its central location and the accessibility of its accommodations The Courtyard by Marriott in Columbia is the primary site for the June 28th through Tuesday June 30th conference.

I.L. Summit 2009's purpose is to provide information valuable to the mission of all facets of Missouri's Independent Living Centers including Independent Living Services, Consumer Directed Services, Agency Directed Services and Payroll Departments. This conference offers sessions for not only CIL staff, but also sessions to inform and expand the knowledge of the Independent Living philosophy, programs and services to CIL Board Members. *I.L. Summit 2009* will also be informative for the person responsible for training staff and board members, the CIL's Executive Director. The mission of the SILC Training Committee is to produce a "WOW" event. The goal is to have every attendee leave every session through the final closing note luncheon on June 30th saying "WOW"! This conference will be a valuable investment of time and money for every member of your staff and board members and the Executive Director. This conference will also be extremely useful for community partners your CIL interacts with to accomplish the independent living goals of your consumers.

Format: The conference will begin on Sunday afternoon, June 28th with the sessions targeted for board members and executive directors who wish to participate but may need to leave Sunday evening to be at work the next day. The sessions scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, June 29th and 30th will be extremely valuable to staff in all of your departments as well as for the board members who are able to stay for the full two and a half days.

Sessions: The Committee solicited input for the session topics from all twenty-two of the CIL's and also used the top ten training requests compiled from the CIL's in the FY 2008 704 Report. The topics for the Board Member/Executive Director training came exclusively from input provided by executive directors. One of the major issues at most conferences is that sessions are only offered once and therefore staff may not be able to attend all of the sessions they want because of conflicts in time. We have scheduled the top ten requested sessions to be offered both Monday and Tuesday to resolve this problem. Several sessions will be roundtable or panel discussions.

Networking Opportunities: The Networking events are designed to promote interaction and create resource building opportunities. The Sunday Evening Board Members/Executive Director Social will have fun and informative contests to help board members learn about the programs and services your staff provides on a day-to-day basis.

Vendors: The I.L. Summit is also taking an innovative approach to vendor involvement. We will be incorporating their displays into the session areas as well as the main hallways for higher interaction with the conference attendees.

Registration fees: for *I.L. Summit 2009* are set for Early Bird price for reservations made no later than April 1st. The Early Bird registration cost for 1 to 5 persons from a CIL is \$175.00 per person and \$150.00 per person for groups of 6 and more. The fees after April 1st increase to \$200 for 5 and under and \$175 for 6 and more. The Center rate applies to staff, board members, E.D.'s and community partners and/or consumers who attend. **Because of space available in the conference areas the conference will accommodate a maximum of 200 attendees.**

Registration for *I.L. Summit 2009* is now open. ILRC is acting as the financial agent for the conference. Conference registration forms should be sent to ILRC in Jefferson City. Reservations can be made by credit card. Because of the ceiling on attendees refunds will not be made on cancellations made after May 15th. This conference is limited to 200 attendees and reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. The deadline to register is May 29th. This conference information packet including the registration form can be downloaded from the Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council website; www.mosilc.org

Hotel Accommodations: The room rate is \$84.00 per night. There are 134 rooms blocked at the Courtyard by Marriott in Columbia. Attendees requiring fully accessible rooms will be booked first come first served at the Courtyard and then booked at the off-site hotels through Courtyard. All sleeping room reservations should be booked by contacting the Courtyard by Marriott. Their phone number is listed on the conference registration form included in this packet.

Funding: is being made through the Missouri Statewide Independent Living Council (MOSILC) and conference registration fees. Additional funding will be generated through the sale of vendor space and the financial participation of corporate sponsors as well as agencies and Centers. If your CIL is interested in participating please call Fundraising Chair Dennis Atkins, Conference Chair Pat Chambers at (417) 667-7007 or SILC Administrative Assistant Tammy McSorley at (573) 526-7039.

Questions/Information: If you have questions or need additional information about *I.L. Summit 2009* contact I.L. Summit Chairperson Pat Chambers at On My Own, Inc. in Nevada. Pat's phone number is (417) 667-7007.

Schedule of Topic Sessions and Presenters

Sunday, June 28th: Board Member/Executive Director's Sessions

Introduction to Independent Living Philosophy (1:00 and 4:00pm)

Presenter: Rich Blakely, (DCAI)

Independent Living Programs and Services (1:00 and 4:00pm)

Presenter: Pat Chambers, (OMO)

Board member role in Fundraising (2:30pm)

Presenter: Stephanie Cox, (ILRC)

Implementing & Complying with Proposition B, a panel discussion (2:30pm)

Facilitator: Karen Benson, former MOSILC Chair

I.L. Board Governance (2:30pm)

Presenter: *TBA*

Subjects will include The Sunshine Law, Lobbying, Positions on political issues/candidates & The Legislation Education Project. (LEP) Presenter: Michelle Krajewski, (TWP)

Evening Networking sessions for Board Members & E.D.'s

"Name that Program! What do Independent Living Centers actually do?"

Host: Dennis Atkins, MOSILC Member

Monday, June 29th Sessions for all Participants

I.L. Training for New Staff

Presenter: Rich Blakely, (DCAI)

I.L. Refresher Course

Presenters: Nancy Murphy, (DCIL) and Nancy Pope, (DRA)

Community Needs Assessment

Presenters: Teresa Myers and Jean Calhoun, (RAIL)

Igniting the Passion

Presenter: Tommy Brown, (BAILS)

CIL Round Table on Programs and Services

Facilitator: Barmie Cooper, (NEILS)

Community Awareness/Marketing/Public Relations

Presenters: Pat Chambers, (OMO) and Miki Gudermuth, (SADI)

Olmstead Act/Nursing Home transition/ Money follows the Person

Presenters: Suzanne Wheeler, (DRA) and Julie Ousley

Transportation (panel discussion)

Presenters: CariAnn Wright & *TBA*

Supplemental funding sources and/or grants for I.L. alternative funding for ramps and home modifications

Presenter: Stephanie Brady, (TILC)

Outreach to returning military veterans

Presenters: *TBA*

***The 10 topics above will be presented on Monday June 29th and Tuesday morning, June 30th.**

ADA Updates

Presenter: Jim de Jong, Great Plains ADA Center

Innovative Assistive Technology

Presenters: Agribility- Ray Drake, Vocational Rehabilitation & Brad Marsh, (SIL)

Communications- Susan Maples, (OMO)

Modifications- Wayne Hatfield, (RAIL)

Payroll Departments/Medicaid Billing/ E-Verifying/Tax Changes

Presenters: *TBA*

Outreach to unserved and underserved populations

Presenters: Marion Tremble, (SCIL)

Employment

Presenter: Craig Henning, (DRA)

General Luncheon Session Monday

Keynote Presentation: "Building a volunteer Base to respond to Disaster"

Presenter: Scott Lewis, President/CEO The Eagles Wings Foundation, Inc.

Monday Evening Networking/Social Event

TBA

Tuesday, June 30th Sessions for all Participants

- ❖ The top 10 sessions as requested by the Centers and identified by the FY 2008 704 Report will be repeated on Tuesday morning. This gives attendees an opportunity to participate in the session topics which were most requested.

General Luncheon Session Tuesday

Closing Presentation: "Making a Difference Every Day"

Presenter: Dennis Atkins, MOSILC member

I.L. Summit 2009

Sunday through Tuesday, June 28-30, 2009

Courtyard by Marriott, Columbia, Missouri

Date of Registration- _____

Name- _____
Last First

Company/Agency- _____

Are you; CIL Staff CIL Board Member CIL Ex. Dir. CIL consumer Part. Agcy.

Mailing Address- _____
City State Zip

Office Phone- (____) _____ Email- _____

Days you will be attending- Sunday Monday Tuesday
(Please check each day you will be attending)

Do you require a fully accessible sleeping room? Yes No

Will assistive equipment accommodations make a regular room accessible for you?
 Yes No (If YES, please indicate below the device(s) needed for your room)

(I.e. shower chair, transfer bench, stool riser, Bedside commode, etc.)

Do you require a special diet Yes No (If Yes please indicate your dietary requirements below:

Registration- Early Bird (on or before April 1st) After April 1st
(Registration fees will be charged according to the total number of attendees from a CIL or partnering agency. Early Bird cost for 1 to 5 registrations per CIL is \$175.00 per person and \$150.00 per person for 6 or more. After April 1st the fees increase to \$200.00 for 1-5 and \$175.00 for 6 or more.)

Form of Payment Check Credit/Debit Card. (Visa, MasterCard and Discover accepted)

Card Number- _____ Exp. Date _____ 3 digit security code _____

Name on the Card- _____

***Make checks payable to I.L. Summit**

PLEASE SEND COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

ILRC
C/o I.L. SUMMIT
PO Box 6787
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

*Room accommodations should be made by contacting Courtyard by Marriott. (573) 443-8000