



Introducing Texas Target Communities: *Making Good on Missed Connections*

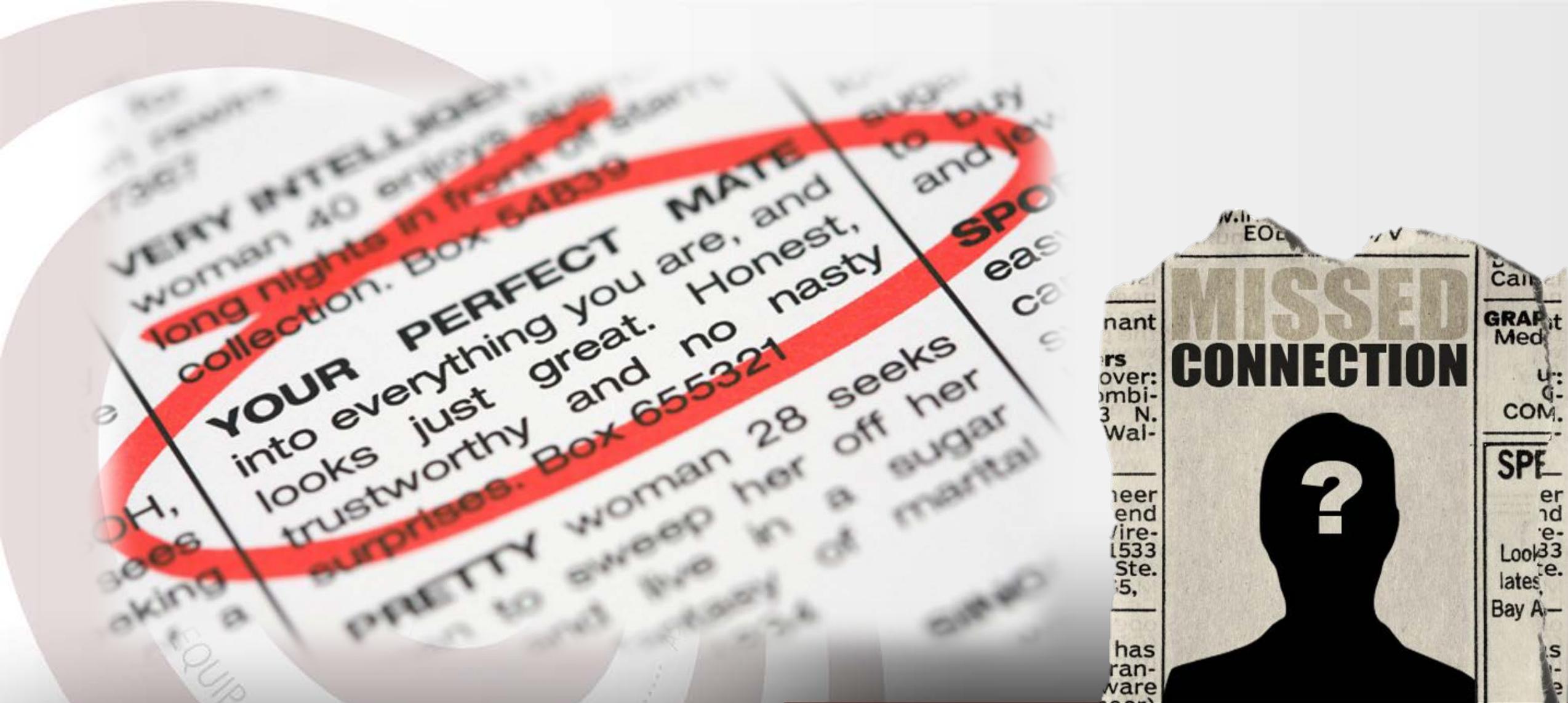
Kevin Andrews

Extension Program Specialist
Organizational Development
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service



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What exactly is a missed connection?

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Giving Blood - m4w (Fairfax Red Cross)

Date: 2010-07-19, 11:14PM EDT

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You: Sitting in the donor waiting area at the Red Cross looking relaxed and cute as all get-out.

Me: In the recovery area, dizzy and eating oatmeal-raisin cookies.

It seemed we had some nice eye-contact, but on top of being dizzy I'm a bit shy, so I left without saying a word. Argh! You might be my type!

- Location: Fairfax Red Cross
- it's NOT ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests

PostingID: 1852440586

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Voting line this morning - m4m - 23 (Downtown)

Date: 2012-11-06, 2:37PM PST

[Reply to this post](#) dfjs-3391536682@pers.craigslist.org

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This might be a long shot but we were in line to vote at a local poll. I was in front of you. You were in a black shirt with jeans and had a great tattoo on your arm. We talked for a bit. This was in downtown early this morning, around 7:30. Let me know what we talked about. I think we live in the same apartment complex so it'd be nice to meet up sometime. Hope this works.

- Location: Downtown
- it's NOT ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests

PostingID: 3391536682

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RED BOOK, BLUE BOOK
F TRAIN, 7TH AVENUE

-m4w 31



HELP WITH LUGGAGE -w4m



I just wanted to say thank you for offering
to help carry my little orangey-pink suitcase.
It really meant a lot because I was having a
really terrible day.
- HALF ASIAN GIRL
in the green shirt

Monday, March 9, 2009

-m4w -28



You Had a guitar. / Had a blue Hat.

We exchanged glances and smiles on the subway
platform. I pretended to read my New Yorker but
I couldn't concentrate. You got on the Q and I
stayed on to wait for the B. You were lovely.



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WASHINGTON
The Pacific Northwest breeds girls bold. This state had the highest percentage of ads from women seeking men (25) and women seeking women (5).

IDAHO Home of the heterosexual male. The percentage of ads from men for women (76) and from men for men (7) were, respectively, the highest and lowest in the nation.



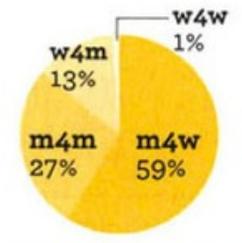
HAWAII
You're not in Idaho anymore. The Aloha State had the country's highest percentage of total ads from men seeking men (46).

BEACH

*Map depicts the most frequently-cited location where a Missed Connection occurred, by region. All data are based on each state's 100 most recent Missed Connections posted on Craigslist at the time of data collection.

LOVE NATIONALLY

Who's searching for whom?



Site of Missed Connection by median age of poster

- Ice cream shop
20 years
- Bar
30 years
- Strip club or adult bookstore
40 years

MISSED CONNECTIONS

WHERE CONNECTIONS WERE MOST FREQUENTLY MISSED.



OF THE LATEST FIFTY CRAIGSLIST MISSED CONNECTIONS POSTS PER STATE, AS BEGINNING ON MIDNIGHT OF THE MOST RECENT SUNDAY, NOT INCLUDING SPAM, RESPONSES OR MISCATEGORIZED POSTS.

ILLUSTRATION BY DOROTHY GAMBRELL

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walmart loss prevention - w4m (springfield tn)

Date: 2012-03-09, 10:12AM CST

Reply to: zxg2q-2892926081@pers.craigslist.org

A little over a month ago I was with a friend in walmart. She was stealing a few things and you were the loss prevention guy working. When we were walking out of the store you grabbed me by the arm and asked me to follow you, it was almost like a scene from a romantic movie. , of course after we got to the room you knew I had nothing to do with her theft, But you still patted me down, the way you ran your hands all over me to see if i had things hidden under my clothes made me so hot. While we were waiting for the police to show up, I noticed that you were checking me out (dont worry I was checking you out too) I know we have a connection, I can feel it and I cant wait till my friend goes to court because i will be there to just see you. and hopefully we can get together so you can finish that pat down.

- Location: springfield tn
- it's NOT ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests

PostingID: 2892926081

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[best of craigslist](#) > [oklahoma city](#) > To the girl who attempted a B&E this morning - m4w

Originally Posted: Wed, 19 Dec 15:15 CST

To the girl who attempted a B&E this morning - m4w

Hi, I am the guy whose house you tried breaking into this morning around 9:30 AM in Moore on Gale Street. Our conversation was short... You only said "Oh my gosh, oh my gosh..." as you saw me staring back at you through the door blinds. Still, I feel we made a good connection, separated only by inches, the door, and the two locks you were trying to pick. I gave you 15 minutes to make your getaway. Your welcome BTW. I don't know if you were with a professional crew, but please don't try to break into my house again. I'd hate to shoot your cute freckled face. However, if you're up for a legal encounter I'm game. You know the one.

Posting ID: 3489764564

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You farted in Trader Joe's - m4w (Danbury, CT)

Date: 2009-12-04, 11:19AM EST

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You were the tall brunette with the near perfect body that farted in the bread section last night. I was the tall guy next to you that looked over and asked, "Was that you?" You quickly replied "No...Wasn't me!" You almost seemed insulted I would ask. As the stink grew you continued to deny your flatulence, but it was evident. I tried to get rid of the stench by waving 2 loafs of Ciabatta bread. You proceeded to storm off in an angry manner. You are beautiful and even if you are a liar and fart like a Clydesdale, I'd love to meet up sometime.

- Location: Danbury, CT
- it's NOT ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests

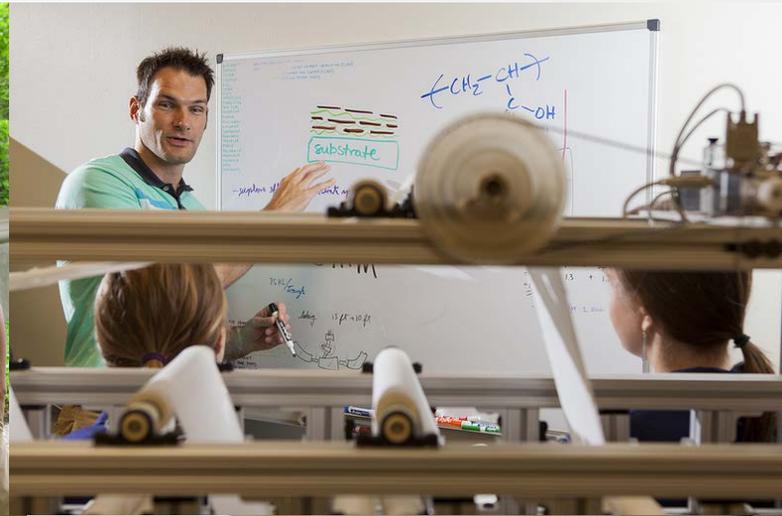
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What are Extension's missed connections?



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College of
Architecture

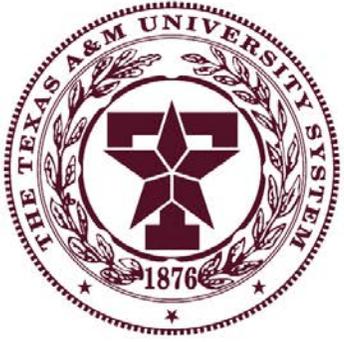


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Who “owns” Extension?



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The Agreement

- Two Year Pilot
- AgriLife Extension Funded Existing Architecture Positions, Program Costs
- Architecture Handles the Day-to-Day Operations Under Advisory Board

(Network + Expertise + Partners) x Sustainment

Texas Target Communities leverages **AgriLife Extension's** statewide network and community connections with the knowledge and resources of experts in community development from the **College of Architecture** to engage Texas communities in sustained efforts to address locally identified issues in a holistic manner in full partnership with a community leadership team and students from across Texas A&M University.



Our Model:





TRAIN

Expertise through short courses, workshops, and education



EQUIP

Public engagement to empower citizens



ASSIST

Future generations on the ground solving problems



SOCIAL

Strengthening the community fabric



NATURAL

Preserving and restoring the integrity of our environmental systems



HUMAN

Nurturing the capacity of people



ECONOMIC

Fostering strategic & equitable growth



CIVIC

Encouraging participatory and collaborative governance



PHYSICAL

Promoting informed development decisions

“The Texas Rural Leadership Program showed me that the most important aspect is how we work together and keep moving forward to carry out an idea. The program inspired us to undertake a project to improve the way our county deals with solid waste. We came together to help people save money and to improve recycling, so plastic, paper and cans could be put together into a single, streamlined recycling program. The leadership program made us realize that it does not matter who gets credit for the idea when everyone works together and has one goal.”

—J. R. Ashley
Marion County Commissioner
Precinct 1



Texas Rural Leadership Program

Texas Rural Leadership Program, Inc.
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
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College Station, TX 77843
Office: 979.845.7808
Email: trlp@ag.tamu.edu

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status.

Helping Texans
build vibrant
communities through
creative vision and
inclusive leadership.



Help improve the quality of life in your community!

Every community has unique assets. Which ones set your community apart from other Texas communities?

- History
- Downtown
- Events and arts
- Natural features
- Tourist attractions
- Citizens
- Schools and youth programs
- Industry and business
- Parks and recreation
- Dynamics and infrastructure

Take the lead! Help envision, discover, and design your community's destiny.

Through our leadership-development curriculum, the Texas Rural Leadership Program (TRLP) will give you the information you need to organize local leadership programs, identify a goal for your community, and then create and implement a plan to meet that goal or make that dream come true.

What can TRLP do for your community?

Help your community identify and make the most of its assets.

- Teach community members to listen to one another and effectively discuss issues.
- Get people working together on the projects they identify as important for community development.

- Create a network of towns and leaders with similar interests.
- Improve dialogue among citizens and within organizations to build a unified vision — and to appreciate different visions — for the community.

Who can participate in TRLP?

As diverse as the communities they represent, participants in the Texas Rural Leadership Program come from many walks of life:

- Business owners and employees
- Chambers of commerce
- Church groups
- City and county officials
- Community volunteers
- Economic developers
- Educators and administrators
- Nonprofit organizations
- Retirees
- Workforce developers
- Youth

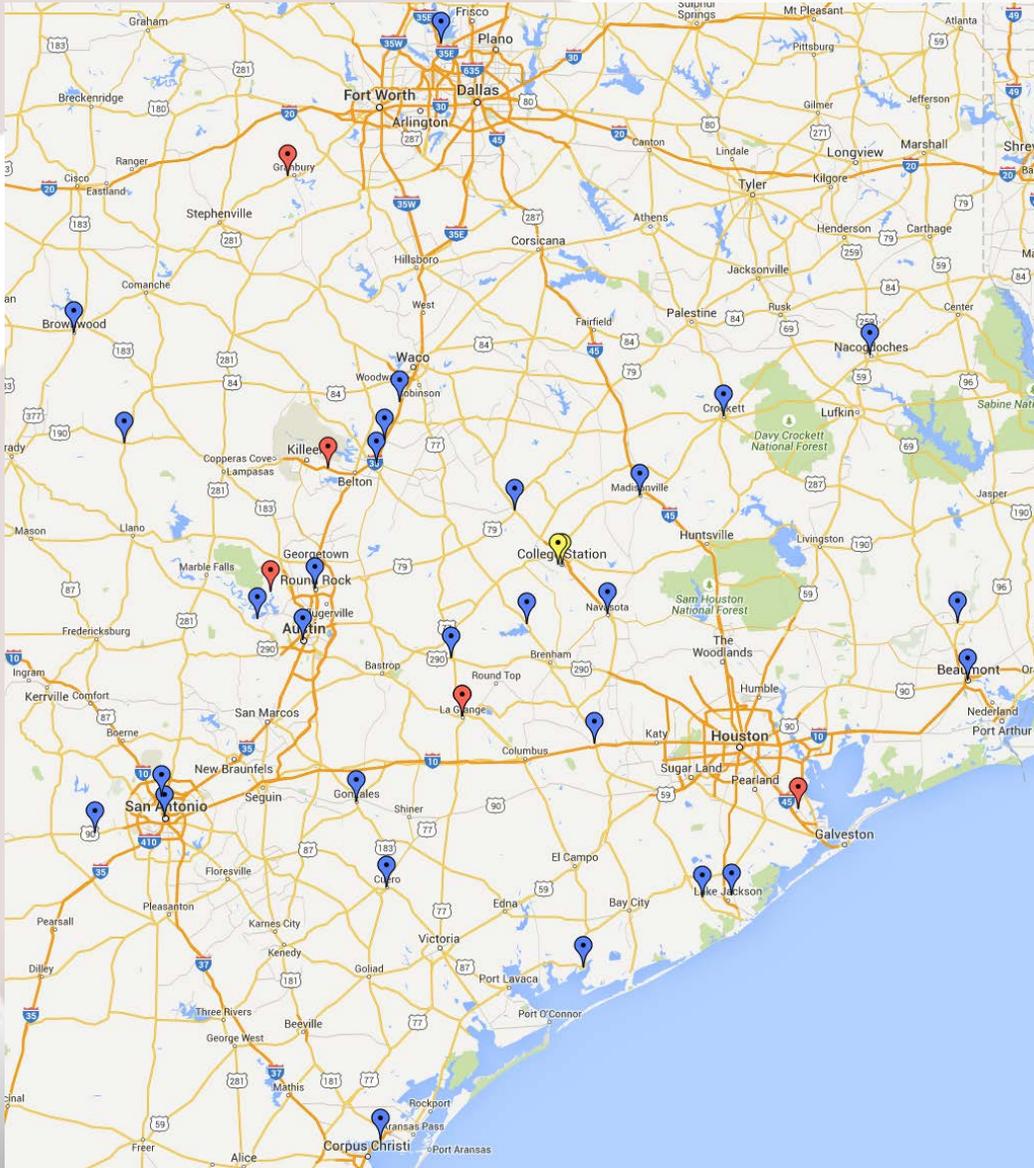
Program graduates are eligible for continuing education credits and other recognition, as well as networking opportunities with other TRLP graduates.

Start a leadership-development program for your own community or workplace, or enhance an existing program. Contact the Texas Rural Leadership Program to help you develop progressive and dynamic leaders in your Texas community.



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Fall

- PLAN 655 | Participatory Planmaking
 - Vision, Goals, & Objectives
- PLAN 662 | Applied Planning
 - Alternative Scenarios, Preferred Plans, & Recommendations
- ALEC 631 | Community Education Programs
 - Issue Identification, Program Development, Teaching Methods, & Evaluation

Spring

- PLAN 678 | Transportation Capstone
 - Alternative Scenarios, Preferred Plans, & Recommendations
- PLAN 658 | Plan Implementation
 - Implementation Plan & Policy Evaluation
- ALEC 625 | Program Evaluation
 - Formative & Summative Evaluation

BURGER MONDAY

☛ FRESH BUNS

☛ FRESH GROUND * IN-HOUSE
STEAK BURGER

* * * *

▶ HOSNI * NINA * OINKER
BLACK BEAN V/V \$10

▶ CHEZ * SLAW * DINER \$8

▶ SIDES * DRINKS \$2

JEN ROCKS

WELCOME TO

1 NORWEGIAN CAKES \$7

2 FRENCH TOAST 7

3 2 EGGS, BACON, TOAST 6

4 DUTCH BABY 7

5 SAUSAGE PLATTER 12

6 PEDRO'S MEX BENNY \$9

7 LUCKY DENNY 9

8 N.Y. BRKFST SANDWICH 8

9 THE BILLY 5

MEAT * HASH BROWNS \$3

TST * EM * BISCUIT 2

ADAM ☛ THE LEGACY

OUR DINER

SANDWICHES:

PBLT \$9
DELI 9

GRILLED CHEZ 6

☛ BLUE \$9 SOUP \$4
PLATES

FRIES \$3

RINGS-MAC 6

KIDS COMBO 7

DRINKS \$2

DESSERTS 5

TODD HAS HOT BUNS





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The Benefits

- AgriLife Extension
 - Increased knowledge base
 - Specialists without making a hire
 - Existing program structures
 - Greater ties to students
 - A new perspective
- Texas Communities
 - Sustained engagement
 - Connections and resources
 - Orderly problem solving
 - Tipping point / economy of scale
 - Impact
- College of Architecture
 - Statewide network
 - Locally-embedded educators
 - Trusted name in communities
 - Fiscal partner
 - Greater connection to natural resources
- Texas A&M Students
 - Real world, hands-on projects
 - Feedback on their work
 - Additional opportunities beyond class
 - Portfolio material
 - Enjoyment



The Results

- Groundwork laid in communities
- Students engaged in work
- Networks on campus strengthened
- Resources developed
- Revisions made



The Ideas

- Adjunct Extension Specialists
- Community Engagement Open House



The Challenges

- Getting everyone on board (awareness & involvement)
- Getting the ship off high center (too many good ideas)
- Finding the perfect first partner (we're just dating now)
- Rewarding involvement (\$ or otherwise)
- The pace of the program (s spurts of fast and slow)

Questions for You

How are you engaging your College of Architecture/Planning/Design?

How are you engaging land-grant university students?

How are you sustaining involvement in communities without a local CD specialist/agent/educator?

What advice do you have for us?





Texas Target Communities

ttc.arch.tamu.edu

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