

Sample Media Release or Column or Newsletter Copy

Residents Invited to Forum on Community Issues

What does our community need? What could be improved? What would make life better for everyone who lives here?

All local residents who are interested in a better future for themselves, their families and our community are invited to participate in the Texas Community Futures Forum at (time and date) at (location), said _____, county Extension agent.

The Forum is being conducted in every county as a statewide effort of Texas Cooperative Extension, an agency of The Texas A&M University System, to bring together a diverse group of individuals, groups and organizations to identify issues and concerns.

“We want to get broad-based input into this process so that a plan can be developed for the future of each county and for Texas as a whole,” said Dr. Chester Fehlis of College Station, Extension director. “We also want other local, state and federal agencies and organizations to participate. Many of the needs and concerns of people can best be addressed through cooperation and partnerships among the agencies and organizations that serve them.”

The Futures Forum process will help Extension develop its long-range plan for the next four years, 2005 through 2008, Fehlis said. However, he emphasized that the true goal is to facilitate the identification of common needs and define a process for addressing these needs to create a better economic, environmental and social situation in communities across the state.

“We view this as a partnership effort, all of us working together for the future of Texas,” Fehlis said.

“We encourage everyone to let their voices be heard in the _____ County Forum on (date),” said (agent’s last name). “This is your opportunity to speak to the future!”