

## News Release

Region VI – Lower Rio Grande Valley District Office

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## 2012 Small Business Week Luncheon

## Award Recipients to be Honored

**CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas** – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announces the winners for the Corpus Christi Branch Office Small Business Week awards luncheon. This year marks the 49<sup>th</sup> annual proclamation of National Small Business Week to be celebrated in Washington, D.C. on May 20-26, 2012.

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, SBA will honor the importance of small business ownership and recognize model entrepreneurs whose enterprises contribute to the commercial prosperity of the Coastal Bend. The awards luncheon is an annual event hosted by Del Mar College's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and will be held at the Solomon P. Ortiz International Center, 402 Harbor Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas. The event will start at 11:00 a.m.

"The SBA is pleased to partner again with the SBDC to showcase and honor local small businesses and champions of the Coastal Bend," stated Debbie Fernandez, manager of the local SBA. "These winners represent the entrepreneurial spirit and hard work it takes to be successful in business while positively impacting our local economy with growth and job creation. Together with SBA's resource partners and loan programs, the branch office strives to be an integral part of local small business success as evidenced in some of our winners."

## Awards:

The Small Business Person of the Year is Theresa Nix, President of GAINCO, Inc. from Portland, TX. Ms. Nix started her company in 2003 providing full service environmental remediation, drilling and injection and oilfield waste management throughout South Texas. Ms. Nix has grown her company significantly through the economic downturn, steadily increasing its workforce and revenues by diversifying its services, and investing in developing the latest technology to enhance its value to its customers.

The SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year is Randy K. Webb, Jr., owner of Webb Construction also from Portland, TX. Mr. Webb started his own construction business in 2007 at the age of 20, specializing in residential and commercial projects learning his trade from his father and grand-father when he was only 13 years old. Webb Construction specializes in the installation of acoustical ceilings, and other material needed to complete interior finish outs, and also provides metal stud framing, drywall, paint, and carpet installation. Webb Construction's clients include large general contractors such as Ewing Construction, Camrett Corp., and Barcom Commercial, Inc. as well as three Wal-Marts in Corpus Christi.

Other branch award winners are:

**Home-Based Business Champion of the Year:** Virginia A. Delgado, Owner, GADO Marketing Consultants

**Women in Business Champion of the Year**: Sylvia A. Tryon-Oliver, President/CEO - Corpus Christi Black Chamber of Commerce

Minority Small Business Champion of the Year: James H. Bounds, Director of Business Development, Security Service Federal Credit Union

**Del Mar College Small Business Development Center Advisor of the Year**: Celia Garza, Business Advisor

SCORE Corpus Christi Counselor of the Year: Joe P. Dove, Jr.

For additional information about the local Small Business Week luncheon, please visit <a href="www.sbawards.com">www.sbawards.com</a>. The general public is invited to attend. Seating is limited so to reserve individual seats or table sponsorships, please call Lisa Farr at (361) 698-2422.

Information and events for National Small Business Week are posted at www.nationalsmallbusinessweek.com.

To find out more information on SBA's programs and services, visit <u>www.sba.gov</u> or call the Corpus Christi Branch Office at (361) 879-0017.