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Area Nutritionist Wins Award

Cecelia Canales, a nutritionist with the Coal, Pittsburg and Atoka county health departments, has won the 2nd annual Laura K. Savage "Creativity in Nutrition Education" award. Canales received the award at the Oklahoma State Department of Health's Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutritionist State Conference held Feb. 13-14 in Oklahoma City.

Canales's creative nutrition submission won the award in a competition of entries from across the state of Oklahoma.

The award is named for Laura K. Savage, a state health department Nutrition Education Coordinator, who was killed in a car crash in June 2001. The creative spirit of Ms. Savage was evident in the nutrition education ideas presented at the conference.

During the presentation of the award, Canales was quick to note that the award was a result of a team effort including valuable contributions from project team members Debbie Fanning, Mergie Bergman and Ernie Fanning.

Canales will travel to the National WIC Association's annual conference in New York City in May to display her winning entry, "The Fruit and Vegetable Toss Game." This creative nutrition education entry will be displayed with similar projects from across the nation.

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Picture: (left to right) Cecelia Canales, Nutritionist for Coal, Pittsburg and Atoka county health departments; Tom Freeman, State Director of WIC Service; Deana Hildebrand, Education and Training Coordinator, WIC Service; and Traci Lundy, Nutrition, Education, and Training Director, WIC Service.