

2011

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
 Extension

Webster County
Annual Report



Webster County Extension Center
800 S. Marshall St.
Marshfield, MO 65706
Phone: 417-859-2044
Fax: 417-468-2086

E-mail: websterco@missouri.edu

Web: extension.missouri.edu/webster

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-12:00 p.m., 12:45 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

December 2011

Dear County Commissioners and Stakeholders:

The Webster County Extension council and staff would like to thank the county commissioners for their support and funding for programs during this past year. In turn, the council, faculty and staff remain committed, despite significant financial constraints, to improving people's lives by helping them meet the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century with unbiased, research-based education and information.

We constantly are looking at the present and future for meeting the needs of county residents, but are also proud of the fact that this is the 93rd year of service to this county with innovative high-quality programs. And the public we serve is continually amazed at the positive impact we make in their lives using, what was this year, just 0.73 percent of the county's total budget.


The mission of University of Missouri Extension is to "serve Missouri by extending the unbiased research-based knowledge and problem-solving resources of the University of Missouri to focus on high-priority needs of people throughout the state." As a land-grant university, the University of Missouri is charged by federal acts of Congress to deliver extension programs. This mission is accomplished through a partnership of the four University of Missouri campuses, Lincoln University, the people of Missouri through county extension councils, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Current program emphasis areas in Webster County include: agricultural sustainability and community food production; wise use of our natural resources of land, water and air; youth development; human development, health and safety issues; community emergency preparedness and response; and small business development and marketing.


An annually-reviewed program plan, developed with the input of Webster County citizens, continues to be implemented and provides direction for extension programs in meeting the needs of our county's residents.

The contents of this report are a summary of the highlights of our educational efforts during the past year. We hope this report provides you a greater understanding about University of Missouri Extension programming efforts in Webster County. Please contact us if we can be of service to you.

Sincerely,


Jane Gunter
Council Secretary


Ray Schooley
Council Chairman


Bob Schultheis
Natural Resource Engineer
& County Program Director

January 2012

Dear County Commissioners and Associated Friends of MU Extension:

“Efficiency” and “Innovation” are two watchwords of citizens and government in our currently challenging economy. I am pleased to report that University of Missouri Extension has kept these words in the forefront and acted accordingly for the benefit of Missouri residents statewide.

Funded through the support of federal, state and county government; grants and contracts; fees for services; and private gifts, MU Extension leverages every dollar received to create expanded educational opportunities. Every dollar provided from counties is leveraged with an additional \$6.00 to create a significant return on investment.

MU Extension creates value for citizens – including those who do not participate directly in its programs. For example:

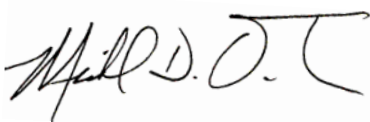
*The federal **Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program** provided \$1.6 million to the state of Missouri. These funds provide nutrition education to limited-resource families. Participants who graduate from the program improve the way they manage their food dollars; demonstrate acceptable food safety practices and make healthier food choices. A healthy labor force is critical to attracting and keeping jobs in Missouri. In addition, this important program reduces healthcare costs over the participant's lifetime, saving taxpayers money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.*

*2011 has been a difficult year due to natural disasters in Missouri. The MU Extension statewide **Community Emergency Management Program** and local emergency management groups provided immediate on-site assistance by coordinating with the State Emergency Management Agency, Red Cross and other groups and by providing online resources through web pages and other media. As a result, citizens learned how to avoid scammers, ensure safe drinking water and food, and recover from a disaster. MU Extension's emergency management program helps communities, businesses, schools and residents reduce a community's disaster recovery period. This action saves lives and countless dollars in emergency recovery operations and avoids job loss. Additionally, the whole community builds a greater sense of cohesion.*

These are just two examples of MU Extension's public value impact. I'm sure you will find many other examples in your local community.

I want to thank you for your support of MU Extension as a critical team player in your locale. Your ideas for improving our partnership are always welcome.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Quart
Vice Provost and Director

Extension Center Fast Facts for 2011

- \$ **48,200** of county general revenue appropriations to Webster County Extension
- \$ **108,426** of matching support provided by the University of Missouri to Webster County
- **10,084** individual requests for help were answered
- \$ **319,772** estimated market value of individual consultation services provided
- **15,012** people were involved in group educational activities
- **3,419,000** people were reached through regional media (newspaper, radio, television, magazine) efforts
- **6,110,000** people were reached through statewide and national media
- **351** MU guidesheets and 4-H publications were distributed through the Extension Center
- **52,178** copies of information and newsletters were distributed through the Extension Center
- **335,204** accesses were made to the Webster County Extension Center's website
- **29,503** of those accesses were made to view presentations people couldn't physically attend
- **19** persons received a 3-hour training course to allow them to buy restricted-use pesticides
- **32** exams were proctored for students wanting to complete high school or college by independent study
- **278** persons from Webster County took continuing education courses through MU Extension
- **196** agricultural & horticultural soil samples were tested for fertilizer and liming recommendations
- **15** forage samples were processed and advice given on adjusting animal rations
- **8** drinking water samples were tested for mineral and nitrate contaminants, with two NO₃-positive
- **25** food canner pressure gauges were tested to prevent food poisoning, with 12% of gauges faulty
- **15,068** volunteer hours were provided by Webster County 4-H youth leaders, Master Gardeners, and Extension Council members
- \$ **279,813** value of volunteer hours provided by Webster County 4-H youth leaders, Master Gardeners, and Extension Council members, based on U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' \$18.57 per hour volunteer value for Missouri in 2009
- \$ **21,164** value of 1,924 hours of donated (unpaid) labor provided by Webster County Extension faculty and staff for client service, building maintenance, equipment repair and janitorial work, based on a \$11 per hour rate
- \$ **3,062** of unreimbursed job-related expenses of Webster County Extension faculty and staff for cell phone use, travel, reference journals, teaching aids, professional improvement training, etc.
- **2010 Leaders Honor Roll Award Recipient:**
— Gerald Nehl, Marshfield, MO
- **2011 Webster County Farm Family:**
— Matthew and Janet Lamb, Seymour, MO

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Faculty & Staff Members at Webster County's University of Missouri Extension Center



Bob Schultheis

Natural Resource Engineering Specialist
& County Program Director
E-mail: schultheisr@missouri.edu
31 Years of Service



Jeannie Moreno

Youth Program Assistant
E-mail: morenoja@missouri.edu
22 Years of Service



Donna Eldridge

Administrative Assistant
E-mail: eldridged@missouri.edu
17 Years of Service



Kathy Embrey

Nutrition Program Assistant
E-mail: embreyk@missouri.edu
9 Years of Service

Diverse, Experienced and Well-Trained Faculty and Staff

The faculty and staff of the University of Missouri Extension Center in Webster County are diverse, representing a variety of backgrounds, experiences and educational levels. They have owned their own businesses, worked for other educational institutions, worked in the public and private sectors, and collectively have over 79 years of work experience with University of Missouri Extension.

4-H and Youth Development

Missouri 4-H is University of Missouri Extension's youth development program, and helps to create opportunities for young people to be valued contributing members of their community. Developing positive self-esteem, leadership skills, decision-making skills, citizenship and practical life skills are objectives of the extension youth program. To learn more about 4-H -- the world's largest youth-serving organization -- visit <http://mo4h.missouri.edu>.

Impact in 2011

4-H Clubs & Volunteer Service — The four established 4-H clubs in Webster County are *Heartbeat of the Ozarks* at Marshfield, *Country Cardinals* at Niangua, *Seymour 4-H* at Seymour and a brand new club, *Show-Me Adventures*, at Rogersville. Some of the club activities guided this year by volunteer leaders included the concession stand for the Master Gardeners plant sale, helping assemble OACAC Neighborhood Center food baskets for Christmas, holding a fundraiser for a family who lost their home due to a fire, collecting items for the people who lost everything due to the Joplin tornado, Toys for Tots, and collecting canned goods for needy families. Valuing their time at the BLS volunteer rate of \$18.57 per hour, Webster County's 55 adult 4-H volunteers contributed over 13,200 hours of service, worth more than \$245,124 in 2011, working with the county's 69 4-H members to improve communities.



4-H Honor Award Winners — The following youth received awards for completion of service requirements at the Club, County, District and State levels.

- Clover Kids Division: Karson Baird, Avonlea Bergthold, Breanna Kellum, Alyssa Stinnett, Makenzie Stinnett, Jessie Terry, Kenaniah Weldon
- Junior Division: Owen Baird, Erin Ingalsbe, Blake Kellum, Angel McHaffie, Tyler Michael, Steven Michael, Nick Mikkelsen, Hope Strausbaugh, Jay Strausbaugh
- Senior Division: Bayleigh Ward, Sheyann Ward, Katrina Weldon

Over 45 project pins were given out to 4-H members who have completed the year.

Webster County 4-H Poultry project members went to State Poultry Day in Columbia, MO, and took 1st Place in the Junior Division Quiz Bowl. Members were Krysta Cash, Blake Kellum, Nick Mikkelsen (Country Cardinals), and Erin Ingalsbe (Heartbeat of the Ozarks). Nick Mikkelsen placed 1st Overall Individual in the Junior Division and Erin Ingalsbe placed 2nd Overall Individual in the Junior Division.

School Enrichment Programs — School enrichment programs are short-term educational hands-on experiences that supplement learning in the classroom and take advantage of children's natural sense of curiosity about living things in the world around them. By hatching chicks from eggs, students learn about embryology, biology concepts, and the natural life cycle of living things. Webster County Extension partnered with teachers in Fordland, to offer embryology training to 45 students in kindergarten through 1st grades.



4-H Poultry Project members (from left): Tyler Michael, Blake Kellum, Erin Ingalsbe, Steven Michael, Nick Mikkelsen, and Breanna Kellum. Not pictured Krysta Cash.



Avian Quiz Bowl members (from left) Krysta Cash, Nick Mikkelsen, Erin Ingalsbe, and Blake Kellum.

Agriculture

The purpose of the agriculture program is to provide unbiased, research-based information and to make recommendations that will help individuals, groups and agribusiness firms apply this knowledge for their benefit. Academic support for this program comes from the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, in cooperation with county, state and federal governments.

Impact in 2011

Individual Assistance — Over 2,160 one-on-one requests for help on production agriculture and food production concerns were handled through office visits, field visits, phone calls, mail and e-mail. Topic areas addressed included:

- soil testing and crop fertilization
- farm leases and tax issues
- livestock nutrition
- corrals, fencing and watering systems
- forage and crop selection, production, storage and testing
- pasture renovation, management and controlled grazing
- weed, insect and disease identification and control
- ice, freeze, and flood-related crop damage
- pesticide use, training and recommendations
- computers & recordkeeping
- soil conservation
- poultry production
- custom farming
- irrigation
- dead animal composting
- poisonous plants
- pond construction & management
- farm building construction

Diversified Agriculture Conference — In January, 90 people from nine counties participated in the 87th Annual Diversified Agriculture (formerly Soils & Crops) Conference. Major topics were: Most Common Cattle Diseases, Options for Small Acreages, Saving on Nitrogen Costs for Forages, and Managing Meat Goats. On evaluations, 67 percent of participants listed new ideas or resources they learned from the conference, and 95 percent said they would recommend it to others. Through 2011, another 17,903 people accessed the presentations from the Extension Center website.



Dr. Craig Payne, state MU Extension veterinary beef specialist (standing), explains the common cattle diseases and how to prevent them, at the Webster County Diversified Agriculture Conference in Marshfield in January.

Soil Testing & Forage Testing — Forage harvest was delayed by April and May rains, then yields diminished by extreme heat and drought in June-September, causing damage to pastures and harvested forages. A total of 158 agricultural soil samples were submitted and analyzed through MU Extension testing facilities. Producers received recommendations for fertilizer, soil liming, weed control, and cropping options to rebuild their soil fertility and forage supplies. Where needed, referrals were made to the USDA Farm Service Agency and Webster County Soil & Water Conservation District for cost-share assistance. A total of 15 forage samples were processed through the MU Extension Center and advice given on adjusting animal rations for proper nutrition.



Soil testing is an important service that saves farmers money on fertilizer and helps protect the environment..

High-Tunnel Installation Workshop — This workshop, held at the Mark and Kumiko Frank farm near Diggins in January, brought together interested growers to help build a high-tunnel (unheated greenhouse) building for growing food for farmers’ markets. The high-tunnel extends the growing season in spring and fall to garner higher prices for growers. Comments from participants included: “The networking and learning from others was priceless!”; “There is no substitution for hands on!!”; “This workshop was very helpful!”; “I really enjoyed the workshop and learned a lot.”; “I enjoyed meeting other individuals interested in crop production.”; and “It was also a nice feeling of helping other individuals.”



Kumiko and Mark Frank (foreground) of Diggins install a high-tunnel building to extend their crop growing season.



The installation crew for Day #1 of the two-day workshop building the Mark and Kumiko Frank high-tunnel building.



Spotted Knapweed Control — The populations of spotted knapweed continues to spread across southern Missouri in 2011. The Webster County website at extension.missouri.edu/webster/spottedknapweed serves as the statewide source of information for landowners about this noxious weed. The public accessed the website 27,140 times (an 84% increase from 2010) to view control options and distribution maps of the seedhead weevils, root weevils, and seedhead flies being used to provide biological control as a supplement to the chemical and mechanical controls employed by landowners. Keeping this weed under control is critical to maintaining productive pastures for cost-effective livestock production, which supports the county economy.

Forage Nitrate Management Workshop — Late-cut forages during droughty weather greatly increased the risk of livestock deaths from nitrate and prussic acid poisoning this year. At an October workshop, Brie Menjoulet, agronomy specialist, and Dona Goede, livestock specialist, explained to 14 producers the environmental conditions that favor nitrate accumulation in forages, and management strategies at harvest and feeding time to reduce/prevent animal deaths. Written evaluations showed participants significantly improved their understanding of this problem and would test their forages and/or adjust grazing times to avoid it or reduce its impacts.



Dona Goede, MU Extension livestock specialist, explains feeding options for nitrate-positive forages, at an October producer meeting in Marshfield.

Horticulture & Master Gardeners

Southwest Missouri and Webster County have a great blend of commercial and home horticulture. Commercially, there is a growing number of fruit and vegetable growers, greenhouse producers, and numerous businesses associated with the “green industry” including nurseries and lawn/landscape businesses. Traditionally, southwest Missouri citizens have a great impact on the horticulture industry.

Impact in 2011

Individual Assistance — Over 3,120 one-on-one requests for Extension Center assistance on horticulture and healthy living concerns were handled through office visits, field visits, phone calls, mail and e-mail. Requests took from 10 minutes to several hours each to research and answer. Topic areas addressed included:

- soil testing
- wildlife control
- weed, insect and disease identification and control
- greenhouses & high tunnels
- fruit and vegetable production
- tree, lawn and flower care
- ice, freeze, drought and flood-related tree and crop damage
- irrigation & water management
- mulching and composting
- pesticide selection and use
- produce marketing (organic and conventional)
- poisonous plants

Master Gardeners — Extension-trained Master Gardeners volunteered 1,364 hours of service, valued at \$25,329, in Webster County communities this year, doing projects that increased community pride and self-worth. They reached 1,199 people with horticulture education and advice through group programs or individual consultations, and the Master Gardener website was accessed 6,744 times.

Projects Master Gardeners took on or continued included:

- Landscape care and improvements at Hidden Waters Nature Park, Rotary Park, Webster County Library, Extension Center, and United Methodist Church in Marshfield
- Garden planting at Fair Haven Children’s Home in Strafford
- Seeds, soils and rocks classes for 2nd graders at Conway Elementary School
- Answer booth at Walmart Garden Fair
- Hanging baskets for Webster County Fair
- FFA project judging at Missouri State Fair
- School and city beautification in Niangua
- Saddle Club beautification in Fordland
- Community Center beautification in Conway
- Informational booth at Japanese Fall Festival and Ozark Empire Fair, and Community Garden upkeep in Springfield
- St. John’s Flower Garden beautification in Seymour
- Teaching irrigation design and raised-bed gardening to soldiers in the country of Qatar



Master Gardeners, at their monthly meeting in October, learn about tree identification from Cindy Garner (standing), urban forester with the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Soil Testing — A total of 38 horticultural soil samples were submitted during 2011 and analyzed through MU Extension testing facilities. Homeowners then received advice on fertilizer, soil liming, weed control, and plant care to improve their commercial and home gardens, lawns and flower beds. Following test recommendations saves money, produces healthier plants, reduces pesticide use, and protects drinking water supplies.

Environmental Quality & Energy Stewardship

The purpose of this program is to provide up-to-date information and advice on environmental and energy issues, and to provide public education and relay programs and guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), Missouri Conservation Department (MDC), and the USDA Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service. Academic support for this program comes from the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, in cooperation with county, state and federal governments.

Impact in 2011

Individual Assistance — A total of 623 requests for assistance from the MU Extension Center on environmental quality concerns were handled through office visits, field visits, phone calls, mail and e-mail. Requests took from 20 minutes to several hours each to research and answer. Topic areas addressed included:

- human and animal waste treatment options & regulations
- hazardous-materials use, storage and disposal
- geology, sinkholes and land use
- energy-efficient house construction
- water supply development, testing, treatment and protection
- indoor air quality, mold control and chemical use
- asbestos, radon and lead testing
- heating fuel economics
- water quality and risk assessment
- solid-waste management, composting and recycling
- planning and zoning
- alternative energy options

Energy Field Days — A Missouri Department of Natural Resources grant helped fund Energy Field Days at Mt. Vernon in September and at Mountain Grove in December, with participation by farmers and ranchers from Webster County.

Over 1,480 producers learned about ways to save fuel and energy on dairy, beef and poultry farms and in greenhouses. They also learned about grants, loans and cost-share incentives to upgrade existing buildings and equipment with more energy-efficient alternatives. Implementing these alternatives will reduce fossil fuel use and protect air quality.

Private Pesticide Applicator Training — Training was provided to 19 individuals wishing to receive or renew licenses to buy restricted-use pesticides. Following successful completion of the 3-hour training course, the Missouri Department of Agriculture issues a license good for five years.

Water Testing — Eight drinking water samples were tested for mineral and nitrate contaminants and the homeowners were referred to the Webster County Health Unit for bacterial testing kits to assure drinking water safety. Two samples tested positive for high nitrate levels, and the homeowners were advised how to avoid potential health problems for infants. Iron and hydrogen sulfide contamination posed nuisances for many homeowners with shallower wells, due to the drought.



Don Day (standing), MU Extension energy specialist, explains ways to reduce energy use on the farm at an Energy Field Day in December at Mountain Grove. Bob Schultheis, natural resource engineering specialist, covered greenhouse energy conservation. Ted Probert, dairy specialist, highlighted new energy-saving options for dairy farms.

Business and Industry

As entrepreneurs and innovators, Missouri's small businesses are becoming a more diverse group that continues to make the state's economy productive. There are about 500,000 small businesses in Missouri. Nearly 98 percent of all businesses with employees are categorized as small businesses. In assisting the owners and managers of those businesses, MU Extension contributes to a county's economic development through growth in jobs, sales, innovation, technology development and commercialization.

Agriculture and business specialists work to make Missouri's businesses successful by helping identify problems and providing information and training. Specialists have access to a broad range of university and governmental resources including faculty experts, research centers and the library system.

Impact in 2011

Pest Review Sessions — An EPA grant helped fund MU Extension educational assistance to the produce auction growers in Webster County that supply food to grocery stores, farmers' markets, restaurants and area families. A high percentage of Amish growers use pesticides to control the quality of vegetable and fruits going to the auctions. At June and August workshops, they were provided guidance on integrated pest management (IPM) options that reduce the use of pesticides, through better identification of insects and diseases, cultural controls, and irrigation management. They were also introduced to the food safety trace-back regulations of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and Good Handling Practices (GHPs) certification, which will become more common in the coming years. Testing of drinking water, spray water and irrigation supplies was also provided to growers.



Patrick Byers, Bob Schultheis and Dr. Jaime Pinero (left-right) identified pest problems and provided control recommendations and water testing services at the C Highway Produce Auction in August.



Dr. Jaime Pinero (right) explains to two Amish growers how insects attack vegetables and how to reduce their damage without pesticides.

Individual Assistance — During 2011, hundreds of questions were answered via e-mail, phone conversations and office visits on developing home-based businesses of all types for full-time or supplemental family income. Interest continues strong in developing niche markets for high-tunnel and greenhouse-produced vegetables, poultry and eggs, tree fruit crops, grape vineyards, processed meats, and organic crops.

Human Development, Health & Continuing Ed.

The education provided for today's graduating students and working adults is soon obsolete unless periodically updated. Readjustment and retraining is a shared responsibility of many agencies and organizations, including MU Extension. Professional updating is provided by MU Extension in such fields as accounting, dentistry, engineering, firefighting, law, library science, medicine, nursing, pharmacy and professional education.

MU Extension also provides continuing education for life-long learning through workshops, institutes and short-courses. Examples of topics include: educational programs for teachers, librarians, school administrators and other professionals; supervision- and management-skills training; independent study credit courses; educational resources and courses for personal growth-skill areas; personal- and professional-development programs; programs focused on family health and aging issues; child care provider training; workplace development programs; and seminars focused on community and leadership development.

Impact in 2011

Continuing Education Courses — In 2011, a total of 278 persons from Webster County took continuing education courses through MU Extension. This included 206 students who received emergency responder training by the MU Fire & Rescue Training Institute, to prepare them for medical emergencies, hazardous materials response and acts of terrorism, as well as fires.

The Webster County Extension Center serves as an exam proctoring site for county residents interested in furthering their education outside of on-campus courses. This year, 32 exams (a 52 percent increase from 2010) were administered to students studying for their high school, college or advanced degrees, or professional certifications through the University of Missouri, Ozarks Technical College, and the University of Cincinnati.

Basic Parenting and Building Strong Families Workshops — In January and February, workshops on basic parenting skills were held in Marshfield for 21 OACAC Head Start low-income families. From Renette Wardlow, MU Extension human development specialist, participants learned how to effectively discipline children based on their age, ways to reduce family stress, self-esteem building and communication skills, all of which will reduce incidences of child abuse in the county. They rated the class 9.34 out of 10, with the following comments: "There is so much stress in my family right now, and this information will help me to remember to put my children first and not blame them for our financial stress."; "This class really helped me to better understand the needs of my kids."; "I am kind of hard on my kids. This class gave me ideas of alternative discipline techniques."; "My kids seem to be out of control lately, I can't wait to try some of the ideas on effective discipline."; "Good class, I will try new ideas to try to be a better and more effective parent."; "Very good class—I want to be the best parent that I can be and this class helped me do that."

In March, 14 Seymour Head Start clients learned about self-esteem, stress management, and discipline in two Building Strong Families workshops. Comments from the class included: "I especially found the information on stress management helpful. I have a lot of stress, especially financial stress, in my life right now."; "The part on self-esteem will help me help my children."

Health and Safety Fair — At this annual event at the Niangua Schools, 123 students, teachers and parents learned about tractor, lawn mower and ATV safety, and poison look-alikes. The objective of this event is to prevent accidents, and reduce injuries and the high medical costs involved with recovery.

Extension Center Website — Use of the Webster County Extension Center website at extension.missouri.edu/webster continued to grow and has been an effective way to provide clients with valuable information, even as staffing shortages and underfunding continued through 2011.

Some 335,204 accesses (a 21 percent increase from 2010) were made to the website during the year, shifting the cost of the publications to the user, while simultaneously providing them information access at any time of day or night. Clients regularly expressed their appreciation for the ready access they have to the unbiased information and high-quality content, especially on time-critical issues like pasture weed control, Japanese beetle control, poisonous plants, irrigation and safe room construction.

FCE Clubs — Webster County Extension assists the volunteer efforts of the Webster County Association for Family and Community Education, which has 25 members in three clubs. Clubs are *Bowen Happy Hour*, *Community Sunshine*, and *Friendship Extension Homemakers*.

These clubs promote building on the strength of the family as a center for a strong citizenry. Their projects this year included personal care kits for Victim Assistance support, Head Start support, and the Fourth Grade Essay and Artwork Contest featuring “citizenship” as one of the Pillars of Character, and numerous other community service activities.

Pressure Canner Testing — High food prices, a strong interest in gardening, and a desire for more flavorful vegetables continues to encourage more people to learn to grow their own food. Pressure gauge testing is helping reduce the number of faulty gauges that can lead to food poisoning. Of the 25 food canners tested in 2011, only 12 percent were faulty, down from 56 percent in 2010. Throughout the year, hundreds of food and nutrition questions were answered via e-mail, phone consultations and office visits. The majority of these questions were on home food preservation, food safety, and special diet recipes. The Webster County Extension Center maintains a webpage at extension.missouri.edu/webster/new/nutri.shtml that provides the most up-to-date recommendations on food preservation and safety.



This homeowner was using a stick and pipe tee to try to regulate pressure on her food canner, potentially putting her family at risk for botulism poisoning from underprocessed canned goods.

Community Emergency Management

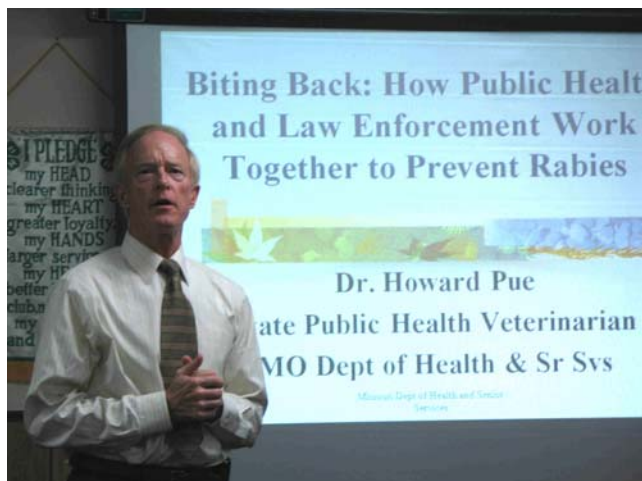
MU Extension's Community Emergency Management Program provides education and technical assistance to individuals and families, local governments, businesses, schools and organizations in preparing and responding to natural and man-made disasters. Empowering them to become 'part of the solution' instead of 'part of the problem' is critical to building disaster-resilient communities. To learn more, visit online at extension.missouri.edu/main/DisplayCategory.aspx?C=10

Impact in 2011

Individual Assistance — Some 925 county residents were provided individualized information and advice to help them deal with damage and continue to recover from natural disasters that hit the county over the last few years. Requests took from 20 minutes to several hours each to research and answer. Topic areas addressed included:

- restoring or rebuilding tornado- and flood-damaged homes
- salvaging damaged trees
- making drinking water safe
- alternative power options
- standby generator selection
- storm shelter construction
- chain saw safety
- livestock safety from storm debris

Webster County Extension Center personnel were also called upon to provide service to survivors of the May 22 Joplin EF-5 tornado and those statewide displaced by river flooding. Advice was provided on-site, by phone, and online to hundreds of thousands of people. A total of 9,900 people accessed the storm shelter and safe room construction information provided from Webster County Extension.



Dr. Howard Pue, state public health veterinarian, explains rabies control at a May meeting hosted by Webster County Extension and the Health Unit.



This trailer of small animal livestock panels was purchased by Department of Homeland Security funds for emergency use and training purposes, in the event of a livestock stop order for foreign animal disease prevention. The trailer, owned by the Webster County Extension Council, is one of four small-animal and two large-animal trailers stationed in readiness in southwest Missouri.

Disaster Response Support — Continued support was provided throughout 2011 to the volunteer-based Webster County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) group, which helps plan for and resolve unmet needs of disaster victims, and to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), which is responsible for hazardous materials mitigation and public safety.

Family Nutrition Education Program

Choosing healthy foods and engaging in regular physical activity are lifelong habits encouraged by the Family Nutrition Education Program (FNEP). This federally-funded program is administered through University of Missouri Extension at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

In southwest Missouri, programs for youth and adults provide information on nutrition, food safety, and physical activity for lifelong health and fitness. Nutrition program assistants (NPAs) work primarily in schools to teach youths and the adults who support them about good nutrition and good food through various fun group-learning activities. Partners include schools, after-school programs, summer youth programs, WIC, Head Start, Health Departments, SNAP (food stamp) offices, food pantries and a variety of social service agencies providing services to limited-income families.

Impact in 2011

FNEP Program — The Family Nutrition Education Program saw major changes this year. The local financial match was removed and the program expanded to work with adults as well as youths, reaching 10,417 low-income participants with nutrition education in Webster County during 2011.

Nutrition education for youths provided information in kid-friendly terms and lessons with hands-on activities. Activities included opportunities for taste-testing healthy foods and practicing skills that lead to good health. Education for adults included nutrition, food safety, physical activity, and food resource management.

Instructional programs offered in Webster County during 2011 included:

- *Show Me Nutrition* in-classroom education was implemented in the following schools: Fordland Elementary, Niangua Elementary, Seymour Elementary and Junior High, Webster Elementary, Marshfield Jr. High, Hubble Elementary, and Logan-Rogersville Primary.
- *Food Power Young Adventure*: a puppet show featuring Mother Goose characters that talk and sing about healthy foods and being physically active performed at Logan-Rogersville Primary School.
- *Jump Into Fun and Fitness* was taught at Seymour Nazarene Vacation Bible School.
- *Show Me Nutrition* educational displays for teachers were utilized in three schools and at the Southern Webster County King's Food Pantry.
- *Show Me Simple and Healthy Recipes* were distributed at Southern Webster County King's Food Pantry.
- *Kid in the Kitchen* was taught at Seymour ROCC Day Care.
- *MyPyramid for Kids Assembly*: a play about a student that is visited by the five healthy food groups performed at Webster Elementary in Marshfield.



Nutrition Program Assistant Kathy Embrey (left) meets with Chris Sackett of The Kings' Food Pantry serving southern Webster County. Their goal is to get food pantry clients to use food recipes and cooking skills that lead to better health, leading to a reduction in medical costs to the public as a whole.

During 2011, 7,497 youths and 2,920 adults were served through schools, community groups and agencies.

Evaluation data collected across the entire state reflects the positive impacts that occur in every county with FNEP participation. Within FNEP are two key programs, each with its own system for evaluating impact: the Family Nutrition Program (FNP) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).

For youths who participated in FNP, results summarized for the state revealed the following positive impacts: 3,360 teachers gave us feedback, 53 percent of them have participated in FNP for three or more years, and 98 percent (3,305 teachers) reported one or more changes in students after FNP.

| Table 1. Student Changes Reported by Teachers | | |
|--|---|--|
| Student changes | Percent of teachers who observed each type of student change | Percent of teachers whose students talked about this change |
| More aware of nutrition | 91% | 85% |
| Make healthier meal and/or snack choices | 62% | 75% |
| Eat breakfast more often | 47% | 51% |
| More willing to try new foods | 76% | 73% |
| Improved hand washing | 84% | 76% |
| Improved food safety other than hand washing | 36% | 40% |
| Increased physical activity | 62% | 64% |

The teachers themselves are becoming role models for these behaviors, with 89 percent more aware of nutrition, 87 percent making healthier food choices, 88 percent doing improved hand washing for food safety, and 81 percent reporting increased physical activity.

Local success stories demonstrate positive program impact. Kathy Embrey, Nutrition Program Assistant, shared the following stories:

- “They are listening!” a teacher commented to me the other day while we were in the work room. She had brought her students some apple cider to taste and they wanted to know if it was 100% juice. They knew that was the best kind. It was encouraging to know that they have applied what they have learned in our lessons and desire to make a healthy choice.”
- “Recently I had one of my principals stop me in the hall. She wanted to tell me that the students were talking about me at a Girl Scout outing the other night. She overheard them discussing the nutrition class. They commented what fun it was and how they liked the tasting along with the activities they did. But what was her name the students began to ask each other? The principal spoke up and told the girls my name. She wanted me to know the impact I had made and I thanked her for the encouragement.”



Kathy Embrey (right) shows Rogersville kindergarten students, through use of a blacklight, the need for proper hand-washing to remove harmful bacteria before handling food, to avoid sickness.

- “The students were so excited when each of them received their copy of My Pyramid. Many students asked, “Can I keep it?” I said, “Yes, it’s yours”, and they were thrilled! I suggested that they take it home and put it on the refrigerator and share the things we discuss in class with their families. The next week I asked how many did as I had suggested; I was amazed that over half of them had done it. How fun learning can be! You can’t help but want to share it with others. That’s what FNEP is all about.”



Kathy Embrey (right), nutrition program assistant, uses a puppet to teach kindergarteners in a humorous way how bacteria can be harmful to health and the proper ways to eliminate them before handling food.

Adults who participated in FNP also made significant improvements in each area addressed.

| Table 2. Adult Changes Reported from FNP Participation | |
|---|---|
| Indicator—Dietary Quality and Physical Activity | Percent of respondents reporting improvement |
| Think about healthy food choices when deciding what to feed your family | 60% |
| Use the “Nutrition Facts” label to make food choices | 75% |
| Consume something within 2 hours of waking | 69% |
| Consume the equivalent of 3 cups of milk, yogurt, and cheese each day | 68% |
| Eat more than one kind of vegetable each day | 53% |
| Eat more than one kind of fruit each day | 64% |
| Exercise for a total of 30 minutes each day | 52% |
| Indicator—Food Safety | Percent of respondents reporting improvement |
| Let meat and dairy foods sit out for more than 2 hours | 70% |
| Thaw frozen foods at room temperature | 62% |
| Indicator—Food Resource Management | Percent of respondents reporting improvement |
| Plan meals ahead of time | 69% |
| Compare prices before bought food | 51% |
| Shop with a grocery list | 58% |

Out-of-County Specialists Serve Webster County

University of Missouri Extension field faculty have multi-county responsibilities for educational programming. This is a tremendous benefit to Webster County because expertise can be borrowed from neighboring counties in the region to assist local producers and residents with professional advice and educational programming to improve their families and farming or business operations.

The following extension specialists from other counties were called upon to support extension educational programming in Webster County in 2011, either through group programs or on-site individual consultations.

- Jeff Barber, Housing & Environmental Design, Greene Co.
- David Burton, Civic Communication, Greene Co.
- Patrick Byers, Horticulture, Greene Co.
- Gordon Carriker, Ag Business, Christian Co.
- Dona Goede, Livestock, Cedar Co.
- Angelia Ham, Youth, Polk Co.
- John Hobbs, Ag/Rural Development, McDonald Co.
- Nellie Lamers, Family Financial Education, Taney Co.
- Amanda Marney, Ag Preparedness, SW Research Center
- Brie Menjoulet, Agronomy, Hickory Co.
- Andy McCorkill, Livestock, Dallas Co.
- Ted Probert, Dairy, Wright Co.
- Tony Rickard, Dairy, Barry Co.
- Christeena Haynes, Nutrition, Dallas Co.
- Tim Schnakenberg, Agronomy, Stone Co.
- Jim Thompson, Ag Business, Laclede Co.
- Wesley Tucker, Ag Business, Hickory Co.
- Renette Wardlow, Human Development, Christian Co.
- Jim Wirth, Human Development, Greene Co.

Southwest Region News Service — This weekly news service at <http://extension.missouri.edu/swregion/news> highlights University of Missouri Extension programs in southwest Missouri.

Articles, containing useful information from MU Extension specialists, were delivered by e-mail and reach every newspaper, magazine, television and radio station covering the issues important to area residents. In total, over 6,000 reporters, editors, council members, and individual members of the public received Southwest Region News Service every Friday.

Published articles often led to other story placements, including television and radio interviews (even nationally). Additionally, over 2,500 people in the region interact with MU Extension through social media, such as Facebook.

Through these efforts, the Webster County Extension Center was able to use a variety of media to reach over 200,000 area residents, including many from Webster county, with practical education on a wide variety of topics.



Leaders Honor Roll Award—
Gerald Nehl was recipient of the Leaders Honor Roll Award for 2010. He was selected for the honor by the Webster County Extension faculty and staff for his long-time service and support to University of Missouri Extension and volunteer work in the county.

2011 Webster County Extension Council

Chairman

Ray Schooley, elected member, term ends 2012

Vice Chairman

Richard Holland, elected member, term ends 2012

Secretary

Jane Gunter, elected member, term ends 2013

Treasurer

Lib Sims, elected member, term ends 2012

Other Members:

Gary Brooks, elected member, term ends 2013

Joyce Dana, elected member, term ends 2012

Harry Harmes, elected member, term ends 2013

Debi Dill, elected member, term ends 2012

Lindy Grier, elected member, term ends 2012

Matthew Lamb, elected member, term ends 2013

Dee Lewis, elected member, term ends 2013

Jane Robertson, elected member, term ends 2013

Jody Boles, appointed member from MFA, term ends 2013

Denzil Young, appointed member from Webster
County Commission, term ends 2013

Jim Sandage, appointed member from City of Marshfield,
term ends 2013

Verlane Phillips, appointed member from Farm Bureau,
term ends 2013

A Unique Partnership

Webster County's University of Missouri Extension Council, comprised of elected and appointed citizens, is a full partner with Missouri's land-grant universities to deliver high-quality education and unbiased, research-based information that helps people solve real-world problems and take advantage of opportunities.

Council members:

- Work with extension specialists to provide the county with quality educational programs;
- Manage finances of local extension operations;
- Provide personnel to carry out extension activities; and
- Elect and organize the local extension council.



Webster County Courthouse, Marshfield, MO

WEBSTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Paul Ipock

Presiding Commissioner

Susie Knust

Northern District Commissioner

Denzil Young

Southern District Commissioner

WEBSTER COUNTY CLERK

Stanley Whitehurst

2011 Fundraisers

Current county and state appropriations do not fully fund the 1.0 FTE (full-time equivalent) Extension specialist, 1.75 FTE program assistants, and 1.0 FTE administrative assistant positions in the county. To meet the client needs and financial obligations for office operations, the Extension Council and Center personnel sought out grants and donated time and resources to keep the Center available to county patrons. Below are examples of the 2011 fundraising projects.

87th Annual Webster County Diversified Agriculture Conference Sponsors

Special thanks go to the following sponsors for their donation of \$1,924.35 of financial or product contributions to make this conference possible.

- Marshfield Lions Club
- Webster Electric Cooperative
- Wilson Excavating/Letterman Farms
- Metropolitan National Bank
- Dairy Farmers of America
- Animal Medical Center
- Marshfield Clinic Pharmacy
- Southern Missouri Bank
- The Seymour Bank
- Webster County Farm Bureau
- Lile Quarry
- FCS Financial
- Marshfield MFA
- Case Real Estate Company
- Stevenson Angus Farm
- Windmill Cattle Co., LLC
- Birch Creek Publishing, LLC



Donation Request Letter — A November 2010 letter brought in \$3,448 in donations for 2011 from residents of Webster County, who valued Extension programs and services and wanted to see them continue.

Marshfield Area Community Foundation Grant

A Marshfield Area Community Foundation grant for \$750 was awarded to the Extension Center in September to help pay for instructor travel expenses and resource materials to conduct at least seven educational programs in Webster County in 2011-2012.



Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast — Trinity Council #10844 members donated their time and ingredients in September to serve a breakfast of pancakes, bacon, sausage, eggs, orange juice and milk to the community, and gave the proceeds of \$636.50 to help with Extension Center operational expenses.



Webster County Master Gardener Association

Master Gardener volunteers contributed \$239.55 to help cover the cost of the Extension Center water bill and the cost of gasoline for mowing the lawn through the growing season. An additional \$500 was donated to help cover the Center's operational expenses for 2012.

Summer Fresh "Helping Hands"

People recycled Summer Fresh grocery store receipts to benefit Webster County Extension by netting \$46.12 for 1% of the receipts' value.

What Our Clients Say

"People just don't know all the things you guys do here. There are just so many different things you can learn about. I learn something every time I come here and I share a lot of stuff with my friends and neighbors. I tell them, 'go to the Extension office; they can help you'."

— Lee Jones, Marshfield, MO

"I apologize as a taxpayer than we're not supporting the Extension Service better, because I use it all the time [calling about locust tree control]."

— Hymal Jones, Laclede County, MO

"You put on good programs [Diversified Agriculture Conference] here, so I brought my son."

— Ralph Behrens, Christian County, MO

"Thank you. I was afraid something like that might be the case [on a failing septic system]. Sir, I appreciate your help and the provision of leads to possible solutions."

— John Borders, Seymour, MO

"You are just too good! Thanks so much [for the Missouri agricultural accident data]."

— Clara Green, Bloomfield, MO

"You have just relieved me a great deal [about my new pond and the oily sheen on it]."

— Beverly Snyder, Dallas County, MO

"Thank you very much for speaking to our MNPH (Missouri Nurses for Public Health) group today! We appreciate you taking time to be with our nurses. Thank you for sharing your expertise. Your presentation was wonderful! The slides were excellent; great information for our nurses. It's perfect."

— Dana Hunt, for MNPH Board, Springfield, MO

"Because of you, I got a brand new well [after the contractor messed up the old one]. Thank you! They threw out the [faulty] federal grant guidelines on the rest of the project."

— Susie McBrayer, Hickory County, MO

"Just wanted to thank you and let you know I've been using your website for some research. I am concerned with my family's safety and your page gives valuable help."

— Amber Brown, via e-mail

"This [information on water well drilling] is going to be of a lot of help. Thank you."

— Gary Blunk, Seymour, MO

"You guys are the best! I've been calling you for the last 20 years and you've always helped me. I just knew you'd know the answer [on mole control and lawn renovation]. I really appreciate what you do. Thank you!"

— David Miller, Fair Grove, MO

"I've called five places before you and can't get a good answer. I'm hoping you can help me [with carpenter ant control in the garden]..... You've been so helpful! I've learned a lot in our short time talking."

— Diane Kennedy, Marshfield, MO

"We have bookmarked many of the pages on your website, because we use that information all the time."

— Linda Watts, Assistant Emergency Management Director, Webster County, MO

"That information you sent me on pasture weed control was the best I've ever seen."

— Larry Baughman, Springfield, MO

"You saved me some money [by not buying ineffective sonic mole repellents]."

— Lee Price, Webster County, MO

"I wish I'd followed your advice [to get a soil test] a year ago, instead of listening to my seed dealer. I wouldn't have wasted \$1600 in clover seed [planting in soil too low in pH]."

— Lee Ireland, Niangua, MO

"Thank you very much [for the information on farming options]. I want to extend my apologies for my impatience. I realized afterword that farming isn't a hurry up thing and I let my excitement get the better of me." :-)

— Thomas Bingham, Springfield, MO

"I really do appreciate your advice. You've been a big help [on pasture weed control questions]."

— Ron Hardt, Willard, MO

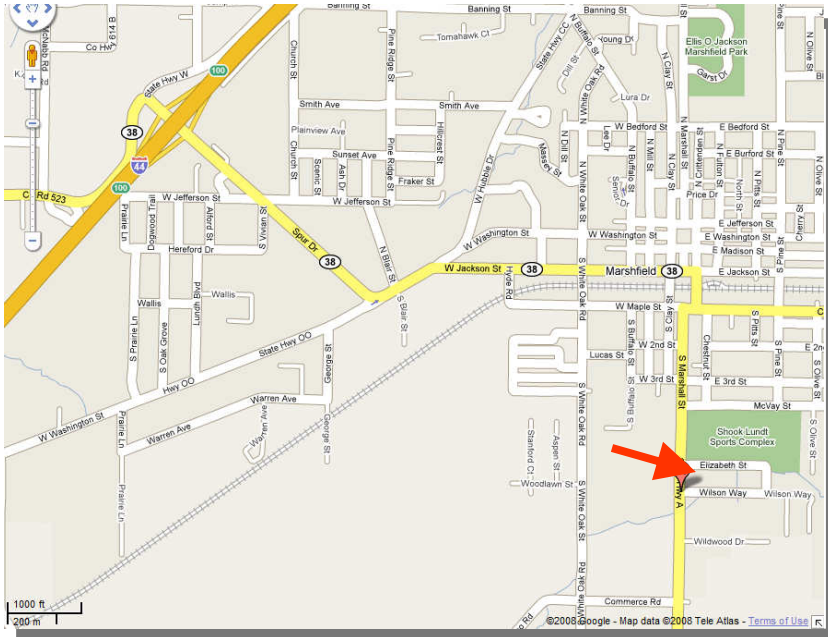
"Thank you for your very prompt and helpful reply [on safe rooms and storm shelters]. I did not realize there was so much to building a shelter. Thank you for the education."

— Sharen Wixom, Georgia

"I just learned so much from you [at the Forage Nitrate Management Workshop]. You've made me feel good [after testing my hay and knowing it's okay]."

— Julia Robberson, Webster County, MO

University of Missouri Extension Center Webster County



Office is located at:

800 S. Marshall St. (next to City Hall)
Marshfield, Missouri

Office hours:

Monday-Friday
8 a.m.-12:00 p.m., 12:45 - 4:30 p.m.

Contact us:

Mail: 800 S. Marshall St.

Marshfield, MO 65706

Phone: 417-859-2044

Fax: 417-468-2086

E-mail: websterco@missouri.edu

Web: extension.missouri.edu/webster

From Interstate 44 (traveling from Springfield/Lebanon):

Take the Marshfield exit (Exit 100) and go south 1.5 miles on Highway 38 to 4-way stop, turn right and cross railroad tracks. At stop sign, turn right onto Highway A and go 0.4 mile to red brick building just south of City Hall on east (left) side of road.

From Highway A (traveling from Rogersville/Fordland/Seymour):

Follow Highway A north into Marshfield, past Fraker Funeral Home and Marshfield Christian Church to red brick building just north of S & J Country Store on east (right) side of road (0.3 mile inside city limits).

From Highway 38 (traveling from Hartville):

Follow Highway 38 west into Marshfield, past MFA on right and Marshfield Christian School on left. Road curves south around building. Follow it 0.4 mile to red brick building just south of City Hall on east (left) side of road.



Southwest View of Webster County Extension Center

2011

State, Federal and County Funding for Extension

University of Missouri Extension programs in Webster County are funded by county, state and federal appropriations, grants and contracts, user fees, and private donations. Local funding for support of the Webster County Extension Center is expected to provide for office space, clerical and 45.8 percent of the youth program assistant's salaries, communications, office supplies and equipment, building maintenance, and travel expenses of extension specialists who conduct educational programs in Webster County.

A special acknowledgement and appreciation is given for the financial assistance from the Webster County Commission, the Marshfield Area Community Foundation, and the county residents and businesses who donated their time and funds for Extension Center operations.

University of Missouri's Contribution to Webster County's Extension Program in 2011

University of Missouri provided salaries and benefits for one specialist and 1.41 para-professionals headquartered in Webster County.

The University provided in-service training expenses, including travel and lodging for staff, metered postage for client communications, and funds for computer equipment maintenance.

The University of Missouri provided support valued at \$108,426 to the extension program in Webster County. Combined with county appropriations, the total funds to operate the program totaled \$156,626. This does not include the leveraged funds raised this year.

Financial Statement

REVENUE

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ 0.00 |
| County Appropriations | \$ 48,200.00 |
| Private Donations (unrestricted) | \$ 3,448.00 |
| Private Donations (restricted) | \$ 2,163.90 |
| Postage/Internet Allotment from MU | \$ 1,937.00 |
| Fundraisers (unrestricted) | \$ 636.50 |
| Pringle 4-H Capacity Building Fund | \$ 3,500.00 |
| MACF Grant | \$ 66.00 |
| Webster Electric Foundation Grant | \$ 68.00 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ 60,019.40 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Admin. Assistant Salary | \$ 23,400.00 |
| Fill-In Clerical Assistance | \$ 1,740.00 |
| Council-Paid Clerical Benefits | \$ 4,545.96 |
| YPA Salary & Benefits (0.458 FTE) | \$ 10,174.38 |
| Postage | \$ 1,566.83 |
| Telephone/Internet | \$ 1,943.32 |
| Rent (postage meter/safe deposit box) | \$ 738.12 |
| Office Supplies | \$ 1,706.37 |
| Election Expenses | \$ 145.75 |
| Reference materials/MU guidesheets | \$.00 |
| 4-H Programming | \$ 3,500.00 |
| Travel | \$ 4,729.24 |
| Insurance (building & bond) | \$ 1,249.77 |
| Utilities | \$ 2,318.41 |
| Building Repair & Maintenance | \$ 476.35 |
| Equipment Repair | \$ 1,716.90 |
| Equipment Purchase | \$ 68.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$ 60,019.40 |

CLOSING BALANCE \$ 0.00

RESTRICTED FUNDS ACCOUNT BALANCES

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Soil Testing | \$ 3,172.88 |
| Resales & Services | \$ 1,773.08 |
| Short Courses | \$ 4,499.43 |
| AgrAbility Project grant | \$ 534.01 |
| Webster Electric Foundation grant | \$ 10,327.00 |
| Food Defense grant | \$ 750.00 |
| MACF grant | \$ 684.00 |
| Program Development Fund grant | \$ 188.10 |
| Restricted Endowments | \$ 1,710.38 |
| Designated Capital - Copier | \$ 7,994.57 |
| Master Gardeners Fund | \$ 2,406.57 |