

2006 Atchison County Extension Council Annual Report

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“FNEP is a federally granted program that helps our young people make healthy eating choices, understand and practice how to handle food safely and understand the importance of being physically active.”

Extension in the Community

Pictured left:

Atchison County Fair Board Parade July 15, 2006



Photo: Atchison County Mail

Atchison County Extension specialists and office staff participated in the Atchison County Fair Board parade on July 15th to help promote Extension activities and events held in the county.

Fund Raiser August 31, 2006

Extension specialists, council members, several Atchison county residents and some of their family members (23 participants in total) participated in a fund raiser by parking cars at the Kansas City Chiefs game in Kansas City on August 31. This brought out of town funds to aid with local Extension programming.

FNEP Program – Changing Lives in 2006

The Family Nutrition Education Program (FNEP) reached 811 Pre-school – 5th grade students in Atchison county during the 2005-2006 school year.

The program’s goals include becoming more aware of nutrition; making healthier meal and/or snack choices; eating breakfast more often; being more willing to try new foods; improving hand washing skills; improving other food safety skills and increasing physical activity.

After each 6-7 lesson series of classes, teachers are asked to respond with their observations of how well these goals are being met by their students. Teachers mostly just check off that they have seen improvements.

Eighteen teachers reported that their students are washing longer. For hands to be cleaned properly, the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention recommend they be scrubbed with soap for 20 seconds.

After participating in FNEP classes, teachers also report that students are being more physically active at school. Twenty one teachers reported that students were being more active during their recess time, walking, running and just playing more actively.

Trying new foods is a challenge for younger students, but after FNEP classes, more are willing to chance it. Teachers report: “Even my picky eaters tried foods” and “they are surprised they like (new foods)” These are just a few of the many ways FNEP Nutrition Educators are affecting children’s lives for the better. The successes go on and on. And hopefully choices children make today will become habits for a healthier lifetime.



VICE PROVOST'S OFFICE

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Dear Members of the County Commission and Community:

Thank you! Your financial support to our land-grant university partnership makes it possible for University of Missouri Extension to deliver high-quality educational programs where Missourians live, work and experience quality of life.

More than 1 million Missourians annually turn to MU Extension for help in improving businesses, farms and communities and strengthening their families. Your partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the State of Missouri, and local organizations and businesses enhances the state's economy and brings unique opportunities to families and individuals.

In fact, MU Extension partners with more than 100 entities across the state. Those partnerships enable us to extend our educational reach without duplicating services. In FY2007, MU Extension will leverage \$39 million in federal and state funding resources into more than \$81 million in educational programming to serve Missourians.

In 2006, dollars allocated by county commissions to support extension at the local level amounted to 17 percent of the total dollars for extension funding statewide. These local dollars were leveraged to provide more programs to more people. Additionally, our local partners across the state (county commissioners and councils) provided significant in-kind contributions in the forms of office space and meeting space. Grants, fees and contract dollars account for almost 23 percent of extension funding. Combined with state and federal funds, every local tax dollar is matched with an average return of \$10.37. We use these funds very efficiently. In FY2007, just four percent of the budget is going toward administration, compared with 12 percent for most non-profits and government agencies.

The return on your investment in MU Extension for your community is great:

- Businesses become and remain profitable -- creating and retaining jobs.
- Improved agricultural yields add to producers' bottom line, and citizens enjoy a safer environment.
- Towns and cities use research-based resources to make better decisions about their future.
- Young people are more likely to stay in school and increase their lifetime earnings.
- Professionals and other workers stay on the cutting edge of career requirements through continuing education.
- Adults and young people live healthier lifestyles and suffer fewer medical costs.

Your local extension faculty and staff, campus faculty, county extension council members, 4-H volunteers, Master Gardeners and other program supporters look forward to a continued fruitful partnership in 2007. If you have suggestions for how University of Missouri Extension can better serve your needs, please contact me or your local extension center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael D. Quart'.

Michael D. Quart
Vice Provost and Director

cc: Brian Foster, Provost
Beverly Coberly, Director, Off-Campus Operations
Extension Regional Directors
Extension County Program Directors

University of Missouri, Lincoln University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Local Extension Councils Cooperating

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/ADA INSTITUTIONS

Extension in Atchison County

University of Missouri Extension has had a long and proud history in Atchison County. Early records show the first Extension worker began in Atchison County in 1917 and has been continuous since the Spring of 1919.

In 2006, there were three regional specialists, one full-time summer youth education assistant and one office manager headquartered in Atchison County: Amie Schleicher, Livestock; Jim Crawford, Natural Resource Engineering & County Program Director; Jerry Baker, Community Development; John Gilbert, Youth Education Assistant; Cindy Hance, Secretary/Office Manager.

Atchison County is part of the fifteen-county Northwest Region. Eleven other specialists and one nutrition education assistant have programming responsibilities in Atchison County.

The Extension Center is located in the Velma Houts Fair Building, 201 Hwy 136 East, Rock Port, MO, and is leased from the Atchison County Fair Board.

We appreciate the support of the County Commissioners and the public in our mission to provide practical, research-based information to the citizens of Atchison County. We help improve people's lives by focusing programming efforts on local issues identified in county deliberative group sessions. They closely relate to the statewide extension program priorities.

More information about MU Extension can be found on the web at <http://extension.missouri.edu/>.



"We help improve people's lives by focusing programming efforts on local issues identified in county deliberative group sessions."

Water Festival for Youth

It is important for youth to understand water quality, non-point source pollution and erosion, not only because it is important for our environment, but also because these topics are included in the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) science knowledge test at the third grade level. Water Festivals are one method of reinforcing water quality information through experiential learning in a fun setting. They also serve as a reinforcement tool to help students understand concepts presented in the science MAP tests.

In April, 102 students from the third grade classrooms in Atchison and Holt Counties attended the 3rd Annual Atchison and Holt County Water Festival at the Velma Houts Building. The event consists of eight different learning stations that use hands on experiences to teach the students about water. The stations are:

Stream Table – Learn about stream movement

The Incredible Journey– Learn about the Water Cycle

Food Webs – Let's look at an aquatic food web

Garbage Pizza (solid waste) – Make a pizza that shows what's in a landfill

Enviroscape – Learn about Watersheds, water, and contaminants

Water Biology– What is in our water? Using a microscope

Soil Bottles – What causes erosion? Let's find out!

Birds, Beaks & Wetlands – Many animals depend on wetlands.

The stations are taught by University of Missouri Regional Specialists, Missouri Department of Conservation, local Soil and Water Department staff and National Resource Conservation Service staff. Donations from area businesses help make the event a success.

Learning is measured by administering a pretest at the schools before the event and a post test at the event before they head back to their schools. Results from 2006 show a 35% increase in test scores after the event. Feedback from teachers was also very positive.



Shawn Deering, University of Missouri Extension Regional Specialist, uses the Enviro-Scape to demonstrate point and non point sources of pollution to a group of students.

Livestock Programming

Beef producers in Northwest Missouri have several opportunities each year to continue their education. One such program is the 4-State Beef Conference which celebrated its 22nd year in 2006. It is a cooperative effort of four land-grant institutions highly regarded for their beef extension programs—University of Missouri, Iowa State University, Kansas State University, and the University of Nebraska. Topics this year included simple sire selection, marker-assisted selection for tenderness and marbling, calf health—minimizing losses, and summer feeding alternatives for the cowherd. Thirty-five producers attended the Savannah meeting on January 12 (the program is held at four locations in the four states over a 2-day period).

The Beef Producers' Seminar was held in Maryville on November 2, where 65 attendees listened to experts on using ethanol co-products in finishing diets, co-product mineral supplementation, getting heifers bred (speaker was from Circle A Ranch), and planned heterosis/modern crossbreeding systems. Survey remarks were very positive.

The Northwest Missouri Beef Improvement Association Performance-Tested bull sale was held February 25 at United Producers Livestock Market near Maryville. The nine strong-aged bulls sold for an average of \$2416.67, and the 38 yearlings averaged \$2237.50. Livestock specialists work with the consignors on collecting information, and putting the catalog and

supplement sheets together, as well as serving on the planning committee.

This was the second year for regional livestock specialists performing the duties of "supplier evaluator" for the Missouri Quality System Assessment (QSA), a cooperative effort of the Missouri Department of Agriculture and University of Missouri Extension. The program verifies source and age of calves to meet the requirements of certain export markets for U.S. beef (20 months of age or younger). Specialists travel to farms and evaluate suppliers for the program. The program was discussed at ag update meetings across the region in early 2006.

Services provided for beef producers include IRM red books (used for keeping calving records), a hay probe with a cordless drill for sampling, ration balancing, estrus synchronization planning, and assistance with production questions.

Young people are an important part of livestock programs in the county. Schleicher assists with getting ready for county fair (weigh-days, noseprinting, sampling for DNA identification, Pork Quality Assurance) as well as helping at the fair. Important deadlines and details were shared with livestock project leaders at a 4-H Leader Training in Maryville in January. Livestock safety was presented to students at West Nodaway School in February. A Show-Me Lamb Camp was held in Maryville on May 24 for youth with market lamb projects in the area.

Meat Goat Meeting Draws Large Crowd in Rock Port

One of the fastest growing livestock industries is the meat goat industry. Missouri leads the Midwest in numbers at 64,000 head as of February 2006, which is 4,000 more than reported in 2005. The increasing ethnic population has brought with it a demand for goat meat. A meeting was held on March 28, 2006 in Rock Port to address a variety of meat goat production topics for the growing number of meat goat producers in the area. Eighty-two goat producers, enthusiasts, feed dealers, ag teachers, Extension personnel and others were in attendance, some traveling as far as 1 ½ hours to attend.

Helen Swartz, State Sheep, Goat, and Small Livestock Specialist from Lincoln University, discussed breed differences, grazing characteristics, multispecies grazing, nutrient needs, body condition scoring, reproduction, guard animals, and parasites. A brush and weed control project was conducted at Hundley-Whaley Research Farm near Albany using meat goats. Bruce Burdick, Superintendent of the farm, described the project and the results. John Walter, DVM, Atchison County Veterinary Clinic, covered basic goat health management for different stages of production. The speakers were rated excellent to good on evaluations.

QSA - the program that verifies source and age of calves to meet the requirements of certain export markets for U.S. beef.



Chip Kemp, MU Livestock Judging team coach, showing Lamb Camp participants how to evaluate a lamb.

MU is a leader in beef cattle reproduction research.

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Community Development

Developing principles that sustain rural communities continues to be the focus for those engaged in strategic planning activities in local government enhancement, community betterment and tourism development. Two community groups asked 1,200 residents to respond to surveys that provided input into the local planning process. Two other communities are developing plans for designed population growth and tourism development.

Strategic planning takes time, information, and community input for sustainable actions to be developed. By using detailed questions, MU Extension has gathered more than 90,000 responses to probes from community residents from the two community-wide surveys.

The CEED Project (entrepreneurship for youth and young adults) focuses on agribusiness, agri-tourism and tourism in general. New businesses were assisted with their startup plans and four businesses received training in developing plan. The new businesses are their marketing plans. Two businesses are in operation and a third business has an expansion completed. All public high school business education teachers in Atchison, Gentry, Holt, Nodaway, and Worth counties have received a CD for use in classroom instruction on the processes and planning needed for a Missouri Small Business Start-up. A formal assessment of tourism sites or potential tourism sites has been conducted in the five counties. Tourism training participants have come from as far away as the Kansas City and Plattsburg areas to attend presentations. Requests for tourism trainings continue. In addition, a listing of ten financial resources available to young entrepreneurs has been completed.

The Community Development Newsletters are published quarterly. Two special newsletter editions were also distributed this year. The newsletters are distributed to federal, state, and local government officials serving the five-county area. In addition, these newsletters are available online from the Atchison County Extension website. More than one hundred fifty copies of the newsletter are sent electronically to groups

who receive regularly participate in extension trainings. Numerous articles were provided to area newspapers and two television presentations promoted Extension programming.

Each county council has developed an extensive plan of work that is accessible online. Group facilitation for this process was provided to the county councils as requested. Training sessions were provided to extension staff and clients of non-profit agencies on how to sustain a quality of life in the community experiencing stressful situations and understanding how one's personality response style differs when working in a safe environment or when in conflict. In addition, a training session was provided for new extension employees on effective processes used when teaching adults.

Individual requests for information and assistance on community issues steadily increase. Presentations and information access is provided to community clubs, not-for-profit, faith-based entities and private developers. Planning information supplied to developers and governmental agencies increased significantly during the year. A more complete listing of programs offered in the region is found on the last page of each newsletter.

Social and cultural diversity within the social framework of rural America is increasing. A school in-service training was developed and provided on diversity issues in the educational setting with special emphasis on the expanding differences noted within our non-metropolitan areas.

Facilitation assistance has been provided to groups ranging from prisoner re-entry programming to the examination of why and how others react to specific types of community involvements. Discussions focusing on safe community environments continue to be an expressed concern with program facilitation and assistance being provided to interested groups.



An extension council member is recognized by Community Development Specialist, Jerry Baker, for tabulating more than 83,000 individual question responses to a community survey.

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Agronomic Programming

By: Wayne Flanary Holt County



Wayne Flanary pictured—This past winter over 300 growers attended Ag Update meetings in the 15 county region with all of the Agricultural staff teaching along with CPD support in each county.

The agronomic programming effort is focused on timely delivery of crop management information and research to the 15 counties in NW Region. The programming effort is accomplished through radio, newspaper, newsletters, meetings and personal conversations with growers.

Each week, "Crop News and Notes," an agronomic column is written and distributed to area papers and radio stations in Northwest Missouri. The column communicates information regarding fertilizer usage, pests attacking crops, and various crop management topics. The column is sent to 17 local newspapers and 11 radio stations.

Another way we communicate with growers is through the use of an electronic email newsletter. The monthly electronic newsletter allows us to quickly inform producers of a pest outbreak and what control measures should be taken.

Our past winter Ag Update meetings focused on critical topics such as soybean rust, soybean aphid, nitrogen fertilizer management and spraying soybean fungicides. These meetings were presented with all of the Agriculture staff teaching along with the CPDs of each county helping support our efforts. Over 300 growers attended meetings in the 15 county region. Private pesticide applicator training was handled at the Ag Update meetings providing training for growers who needed licenses and those who needed to recertify. Corn growers and soybean association meetings were

coordinated by the Extension Ag staff.

This summer, scouting meetings were held in all fifteen counties. The attendance limited but 72 growers attended. This is the first year this educational effort was offered.

Crop management practices for Northwest Missouri are demonstrated at the Graves-Chapple Farm. The farm is a show place to demonstrate no-till farming practices. Soil erosion reduction is a critical issue in Northwest Missouri and we must continue our progress or regulation will force compliance. Nitrogen management, planting populations, hybrid and variety selection, pest control practices are demonstrated during field days and information from the site is delivered through an annual report, on the web and during winter meetings. Jim Crawford, farm coordinator, provides management for Graves-Chapple Farm. Bruce Burdick, superintendent, provides the management and care of the Hundley-Whaley Farm.

Twelve brush control demonstrations on right-of-ways were applied in 2005. Evaluation of the treatments was handled late summer of 2006.

My programming is based on a list of needs supplied by area growers; continue to be a source of unbiased information and education, help us evaluate new products and technology, help keep us profitable and efficient with fertilizer use and other crop inputs and finally, keep us informed of pests that may attack our crops.



Wayne Flanary, Regional Agronomist, discusses soybean fungicides during the 2006 Graves-Chapple Farm tour.

Lawn Care Issues Workshop

On a very stormy September evening, 29 people braved the elements to attend a meeting designed for homeowners to address questions they may have about their lawn. The meeting was held at the Graves-Chapple farm so that the newly established turf plots could be used to demonstrate some of the equipment discussed. However, the weather prevented any hands on equipment demonstrations.

The presentations that were held were conducted by regional specialists and the state specialist in turf. Topics included Reseeding Your Lawn – Turf Options and Procedures, Fall Lawn Fertility – What, How Much & When, Calibrating Your Spreader, Core Aeration & Dethatching – Benefits to Your Lawn, Tree & Shrub Management in Your Lawn and Mole & Pest Control. Feedback from the meeting was very positive and additional sessions will be planned.



Turf grass plots were established to help provide answers to questions posed by local residents.

Student Field Day

The Graves-Chapple Farm Student Field Day was held on Wednesday, September 13, 2006. Six area schools attended allowing more than 100 FFA students from Atchison and Holt counties to get involved the activities for the day making it a great success. The students visited 6 different learning stations and toured some on going farm field research projects throughout the day.

One of the station demonstrations introduced them to the aspects of AgrAbility which assists disabled farmers by modifying equipment with needed apparatus for continued farming ability. Some other stations offered information about Pest management; the importance of nozzle selection, demonstrated with a functioning spray device; and GPS, Global Positioning Systems. GPS allows farmers to record and later pinpoint problem areas within any size field.

As part of the learning stations Ex-

tension also offered the students a chance to talk with two college representatives. One station offer information from MU and the other from NWMS about the opportunities the schools had to offer them in agriculture. The students had approximately 10 minutes at each station keeping the presentations and demonstrations informative and interesting.

Thank you to all the presenters for their time and knowledge and to the Rock Port Rotary for cooking the hamburgers and hotdogs that were provided with the help of our sponsors: Brown's Ag Service, Rock Port; Cunningham Farms, Craig; MFA Agri Services, Fairfax; Shelter Insurance, Rock Port; Sur-Gro Plant Food Co., Forest City; Farmers State Bank, Mound City; Exchange Bank, Mound City; Farmers Supply Ag Service, Burlington Junction; MO Valley Ag, Rock Port; State Farm Insurance, Rock Port; Tarkio Coop, Tarkio; Bank Midwest, Rock Port; Citizens Bank & Trust, Rock Port.

Six area schools attended allowing more than 100 FFA students from Atchison and Holt counties to get involved the activities for the day

2006 Atchison County 4-H Highlights

2006 was a year of change for the Atchison County 4-H program. Members and leaders of the Atchison County 4-H Council worked hard to strengthen the activities and events offered to Atchison County 4-H'ers. 72 youth members and 33 adult leaders enrolled in the Atchison County 4-H program. These youth and adults participated within four County 4-H Clubs: Farmer City, Lucky Clover, Wolverines, and Wranglers. 4-H Club and county involvement offers long-term educational experiences in which members learn life skills such as decision making, public speaking, and working with others.

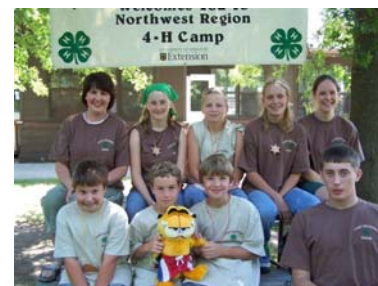
Two events seeing significant changes in 2006 were Carnival and Fair. Carnival, the annual fundraiser for the 4-H Council, was moved from the traditional Rock Port location to Tarkio. Leaders Jo Lang and Jill Sharp themed the event to highlight 4-H project work, as participants enjoyed activities involving bowling, cake decorating, camping, livestock, photography, and more.

Leaders Mary Salmond and Holly

Barnes provided leadership for July's fair activities, Achievement Day and Special Activities Days. They condensed the week long activities to one full day. This change drew a larger crowd, as parents and youth were able to be present for project work exhibiting, conference judging, fashion revue, personal appearance, demonstrations, and speeches.

Other successful events for Atchison County 4-H'ers included a kick off celebration bowling and pizza party, livestock project weigh days, regional summer camps at Crowder State Park, and participation in the Missouri State Fair and AK-SAR-BEN.

4-H Youth Specialist Annette Deering provided guidance for the Atchison County 4-H program, and MU Summer Work Study student John Gilbert provided hands-on local assistance. The youth officers for the 2006 4-H Council were President Kassie Wilson, Vice-President Cody Joesting, Secretary Jess Salmond, Co-Treasurer Steph Sharp, and adult Co-Treasurer Diane Hicks.



Atchison County 4-H youth members and teen leaders enjoyed the NW Region 4-H Summer Youth Camp, held in June 2006 at Crowder State Park near Trenton, Missouri. Pictured on front row, far right, is MU Work Study student John Gilbert.

Atchison County Extension Center

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 Email: atchisonco@missouri.edu
<http://extension.missouri.edu/atchison/>

Office Staff:

Jim Crawford, Natural Resource Engineer & CPD
 Amie Schleicher, Livestock Specialist
 Jerry Baker, Community Development Specialist
 Vacant, Youth Education Assistant
 Cindy Hance, Secretary/Office Manager

Specialists Assigned to Atchison County:

Karma Metzgar, Regional Director
 Meridith Berry, Information Technology
 Wayne Flanary, Agronomy
 Bob Kelly, Agriculture Business
 David Davis, Housing and Environmental Design
 Tom Fowler, Horticulture
 Vacant, Buchanan County Business & Industry
 Karen From, Nutrition & Health Education
 Annette Deering, 4-H Youth
 Don Miller, Human Development
 Gina Ripley, Nutrition Program Associate
 Rebecca Travnichek, Family Financial Education

2006 Atchison County Council Members

Officers: **Chair** - Lee Harms
Vice-Chair - Bill Slaughter
Treasurer - Tony McKenney
Secretary - Lyn Simmons

District 1 - Tarkio District

Lee Harms Ryan Harms
 Dean Hicks Dennis Martin

District 2 - Rock Port District

Mike Herron Tony McKenney
 Steve Showalter

District 3 - Fairfax District

Rhonda Ball Roger Pennel
 Bill Slaughter Lyn Simmons

Appointed Members

County Court Larry Hicks
 MFA Roger Southard
 4-H Advisory Tim Lemmon
 Farm Bureau Mike Rolf

2006 Atchison County Extension General Operation Budget

INCOME	2006 BUDGET
County Commissioners	\$36,000
Rent	\$500
Resale Items/Soil Tests	\$1,000
Postage Allocation	\$1,500
Fund Raising	\$600
Miscellaneous	\$1,500
TOTAL	\$41,100

EXPENSES	2006 BUDGET
Secretary/Bookkeeper	\$17,680
3-wk Temp. Sec. and Janitor	\$1,470
Benefits	\$1,641
Travel	\$5,000
Supplies/Materials	\$5,600
Equip, New / Maintenance	\$1985
Ins., Bond, Adv.	\$750
Utilities / Rent	\$6,975
1/2 Time YEA Support	Inc. Above
TOTAL	\$41,100

Federal and state funds provide salaries and benefits for professional staff assigned to the county, expenses for professional development, official mail, and cost sharing on computer technology. The University also provides educational materials and faculty support for extension programs. For the past year, 2006, University of Missouri Extension investment for direct support of 3 professional staff and ½ time Youth Education Assistant amounted to over \$404,430 in Atchison County.