Cape Girardeau County Extension Council

Extension programs and staff are directed by an elected council of 20 citizens representing a broad spectrum of occupations, interests, locations, race and creed within the County. Also MFA, Co-Op, Farm Bureau, Cities of Cape Girardeau and Jackson and the County Commission each appoint one member to serve on the Council.

Extension Council Members
Chairman: Dan O’Loughlin
Vice Chairman: Rex Meyr
Secretary: Sue Jones
Treasurer: Dr. Bill Meyer

Lee Anderson
Kelli Birk
Allen Clark
DeVonne Glastetter
Brandi Holder
Mark Kasten
George Kirchdoerfer
Paul Koeper
Neal McGuire
Erna Phillips
Randy Ressel
Amanda Aufdenberg
Larry Bock
Dave Danker
Keith Holloway
Jim Hope
Jim Kimmel
Don Koehler
Barbara Marshall
Larry K. Miller
Mark Puchbauer
Octavia A. Scharenborg

Ex-Officio Members
JoAnn Hahs, FCE Council Representative
Debbie Birk, 4-H Council Representative
Roger L. Guyot, Mizzou Alumni Representative

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
Extension
The University of Missouri Extension Council, faculty and staff would like to take this opportunity to thank the Cape Girardeau County Commissioners for their continued support of our programs.

We plan to continue to provide top quality programs and services in 2014. Council and staff will also work to secure alternative funding through grants and other gifts and donations. Our goal is to present educational programs to help residents “Live. And Learn.” to their full potential. As in past years, in 2014 we will provide workshops in agriculture, human environmental sciences, 4-H, and business and industry.

The Cape Girardeau County Extension Center provides a window for county residents to access the resources of the University of Missouri System. In 2013 the extension center provided over 26,107 contacts to clients through short courses, meetings, newsletters, telephone consultations, and personal instruction. Extension programs meet need identified in the local community. Program emphasis includes agriculture, business and economic development, successful aging, strengthening families, enhancing health and nutrition, protecting the environment and youth development.

As we address the challenges of the future, we appreciate the continued support and hard work of the Cape Girardeau County Commission. In addition we salute the many volunteers, community leaders, organizations and businesses, extension council members and staff who have given of their time and talents. Together we look forward to enhancing the economic well-being and improving the lives of the citizens of Cape Girardeau County in 2014.

________________________________________________________

Dan O’Loughlin,                                      Mary Gosche
Council Chair                                  County Program Director

Annual Meeting 2013
Extension Council Officers
Oath of Office by Kara Clark Summers
2013 General County Extension Budget

Thanks to the citizens of Cape Girardeau County and the Cape Girardeau County Commissioners for their support.

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Dear County Commissioners and Associated Friends of MU Extension:

As we enter 2014, we at University of Missouri Extension celebrate our 100-year partnership with you, with the State of Missouri and with the federal government. Through the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, the Cooperative Extension Service was established to provide practical application of research knowledge “to persons not attending or resident in said colleges in the several communities.” Over the years, the mission to bring you relevant, reliable and responsive education to improve lives and local economies remains the same. Yet, we also have changed to help you meet emerging issues and to take advantage of emerging opportunities.

Every day, MU Extension helps create value for citizens. For example:

- Throughout the state, MU Extension provides information to help address issues and opportunities related to Missouri’s economic infrastructure, public services, economic development, jobs and educational access. Counseling more than 3,000 business clients in FY12 resulted in 9,328 new jobs, sales increases of $188 million, $213 million in new business financing, and government contracts of more than $195 million.

- Our state and nation are in need of workers who are highly proficient in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Research has shown that 4-H members develop an increased interest in science three times higher than their non-peers. Both non-traditional activities, such as robotics, and more traditional activities, such as livestock judging and food preparation, are doorways to science-related careers.

- Livestock production accounts for about 53 percent of the state’s agricultural receipts. MU Extension’s Tier Two Show-Me-Select Replacement Heifer Program, which improves reproductive efficiency of beef herds, has garnered producers $237 to $357 per heifer, depending on breeding protocol followed. Statewide economic impact of the program has exceeded $65 million.

These are just three examples of MU Extension’s impact – made possible through your support of MU Extension in your community. I look forward to our continuing partnership, and as always, your ideas for improving our partnership are welcome.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Ouart
Vice Provost and Director

University of Missouri, Lincoln University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Local Extension Councils Cooperating
Impact on Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

The County at a Glance

- UM Students: 305
- UM Alumni: 1,609
- UM Employees: 37
- Population: 75,017
- UM Salary & Retirement Income: $889,659
- UM State Tax Revenue: $31,632
- UM Federal Tax Revenue: $128,779

UM Students from the County in 2013
- 305 students
  - 208 - MU
  - 18 - UMKC
  - 58 - Missouri S&T
  - 21 - UMSL
  - 231 - Undergraduates
  - 74 - Graduates
  - 258 - Full-time students
  - 47 - Part-time students

UM Alumni Residing in the County in 2013
- 1,609 alumni
  - 1,115 - MU
  - 131 - UMKC
  - 239 - Missouri S&T
  - 124 - UMSL
  - 791 Selected School Alumni
  - 77 - Medicine
  - 66 - Nursing
  - 62 - Health Professions
  - 37 - Dentistry
  - 19 - Pharmacy
  - 11 - Optometry
  - 24 - Veterinary Medicine
  - 121 - Agriculture
  - 288 - Engineering
  - 86 - Law
  - UM Alumni Teaching K-12 in the County in 2013
  - 32 teachers
  - 4% of all county teachers
  - 6 principals and administrators
  - 15% of all county principals and administrators

UM Services Received in the County in 2013
- 484 patients seen at UM Health Care, with $52,580 of uncompensated care.
- 2 patients seen at the UMKC School of Dentistry with an average of $26 per patient in uncompensated care.
- 26,107 contacts with MU Extension through MU Extension events held in district counties.

Cape Girardeau County Extension
684 W. Jackson Trail, P.O. Box 408
Jackson, MO. 63755

573-243-3581
www.extension.missouri.edu/Capegirardeau
Cape Girardeau Extension Specialist and Staff
Headquartered in the County

Mary Gosche, CPD/Human Development Specialist
Richard Proffer, Business Development Specialist
Anthony Ohmes, Agronomy Specialist
Lesley Meier, (Not pictured) 4-H Youth Specialist
Jim Lichtenegger, Youth Program Assistant
Mary Ann Knight, Nutrition Program Assistant
Ruth Timberlake, Secretary/Bookkeeper
Maryann Garvey, Secretary
Teresa Meier, Secretary

Other Specialist serving Cape Girardeau County:
Frank Wideman, Natural Resource Engineer
Bethany Bachmann, Food & Nutrition Specialist
Donna Aufdenberg, Horticulture Specialist
David Reinbott, Ag. Business Specialist
Van Ayers, Ag & Rural Development Specialist
Rebecca Blocker, Housing Specialist
Extension Center Operations: Many meetings have been hosted in our Education Center. Staff may concentrate on educational programming instead of spending time locating space and setting up meeting rooms. Extensive use has been made of the meeting rooms during 2013 bringing over 352 meetings for our clients and community.

Publications: The Extension Center serves as a source for transmittal of Research based information from the University of Missouri and Lincoln University. Thousands of pamphlets, guide sheets, web information printouts and publications are distributed each year, providing county residents with concise, detailed information on a particular topic of interest to them.

Requests: Thousands of requests are handled over the telephone, as callers are immediately provided with answers to their questions; referred to additional sources of assistance; or receive follow-up information to provide the help they need.

Soil Testing: 497 soil tests were processed through the Cape Girardeau County Extension office in 2013 for farmers, homeowners, and business owners. We offer testing through the University of Missouri Soil Lab in Portageville, MO.

Independent Study: The Extension Center also serves as a testing site for MU Online. Students enroll year-round in courses and have 9 months to complete each course. Some students take their examinations at the Cape Girardeau County Extension Center either supervised online or in the office. Testing figures for 2013 through the University of Missouri were: University Class Testing: 18 students

MU Direct: Continuing Education Classes: Non Credit – 416 participants from Cape Girardeau County: includes Fire and Rescue Training Institute, Law Enforcement Training Institute, Missouri Training Institute, Nursing Training and MU Conference Office.

Related Organizations: Many related organizations including Natural Resource Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Rural Development, Missouri Department of Conservation and Cattlemen’s Association utilize our facilities to benefit our county citizens with informational programs.

ITV: Interactive TV is available in the Extension Center, providing near face to face programs to many citizens, saving clients and staff time and expenses, all staff and several partners are offering programs using this technology.

Cape Girardeau County Century Farms
The University of Missouri Century Farm Program began in the Bicentennial year of 1976 and since that year 117 farms have been honored in Cape Girardeau County. In 2013 five county Century Farms were recognized at the Annual Extension Council Banquet in February. Those farms owners are shown below with Mary Gosche, CPD receiving their personalized farm signs:

Marla Moore and Family

Oehl Family

Steve and Michele Schabbing

Darrell M. Stearns

John W. Wessel and Family
State Fair Farm Family Recognition

David and Rebecca Wichern and family of Jackson were among the 108 families honored during the Missouri State Fair’s Farm Family Day on August 12, 2013.

The Wichern’s were selected as the Cape Girardeau County Missouri State Fair Farm Family by the Cape Girardeau County Extension Council. The family includes daughters Rachel and Sarah.

Each year, the fair sets aside a day to recognize farm families from across the state who are active in their community, involved in agriculture and participate in local outreach and extension programs such as 4-H and FFA.

The Wichern’s operate a Crop/Beef production operation. The Family is very involved in the Cape Girardeau County 4-H Program.

The annual event was sponsored by the Missouri Department of Agriculture, the Missouri Farm Bureau, the Missouri State Fair, the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and University of Missouri Extension.

Cape Girardeau County State Fair Farm Family
David & Rebecca Wichern and daughters, Rachel and Sarah with State Fair, University of Missouri and MO Dept. of Agriculture Representatives at the MO State Fair.
Extension Council Scholarship

The MU Extension Cape Girardeau County Extension Council offers yearly scholarships for interested college students. A committee of Extension Council members makes the selection of scholarship winners.

Applicants must be a Cape Girardeau County resident or have graduated from an adjoining school district while living in Cape County or have a general education degree (GED). Students must have completed a minimum of sixty hours of college level course work toward an undergraduate degree and enrolled in a four year degree program. The degrees must be in one of the following categories: agriculture, human developmental sciences, youth development or business. Students must have a minimum GPA of 2.5.

Two cash scholarships of $200.00 each are paid directly to the recipients. Funding for the Scholarships comes from the Cape Girardeau County Gifts and Endowment Fund at UMC. Scholarship recipients for 2013 were Diane Strong from Cape Girardeau and Tyler Lappe from Oak Ridge. The Scholarships were presented at the Extension Council Picnic in July by Extension Youth Program Assistant Jim Lichtenegger.

Diane Strong
2013 Scholarship Recipient

Tyler Lappe
2013 Scholarship Recipient
Leader Honor Roll
In Cape Girardeau County

Leader Honor Roll certificates are presented to community members who give outstanding service to University of Missouri Extension by helping with programs and the operations of the Extension Council. The Leader Honor Roll Certificates are presented at the Annual Extension Council Banquet in February. The following were honorees and their nominators in 2013: Dr. John Cherry, Larry Simmon and Bonnie Stahlman. (Bonnie Stahlman was unable to attend the banquet, nominated by Donna Taake.)
EXTENSION PROGRAMMING
IN CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY

Cape Girardeau County Youth & 4-H

Lesley Meier

Communities of members building life skills, engaging in Science and connecting to a community

Number of Cape Girardeau County Learners:

233 4-H Members
225 Trained 4-H Volunteers

One of every five Missourians between the ages of 5 and 18 participated in a MU Extension 4-H Youth Development program in 2013

What Did They Learn?

The twelve Cape Girardeau County 4-H clubs offer long-term educational experiences in which members learn life skills such as decision making, public speaking and working with others. Members learn by doing under the guidance of adult volunteers, who teach projects ranging from aerospace and arts to veterinary science and sport fishing. Clubs also involve children and teens in community service, camping and educational trips.

National, State, and Regional 4-H Attendance

- National 4-H Congress: 1
- 4-H Citizenship Trip in Washington DC: 8
- State 4-H Congress: 11
- State Teen Conference: 6
- Youth Civic Leaders Summit: 3
- State Shooting Sports Contest: 6
- State Public Speaking Contest: 4
- State Poultry Judging: 3
- State Dairy Judging: 4
- 4-H Camp: 88
- Regional Energizer: 14
What Action Did They Take?

Missouri 4-H Members are twice more likely to have been on a college campus than their non-4-H peers. MU is by far the campus most frequently visited and 4-H is the second most reported reason to be on the MU Campus (Lerner, 2008). In 2011, MU Extension 4-H connected 8,500 young people age 8 to 18 to University of Missouri campuses and faculty. Being on a campus is a predictor of youth going on to higher education (Hoover, 2006).

These students are more likely to go to college and enjoy

- increased financial success for themselves and their offspring
- be better consumers
- improve quality of life through more opportunities for leisure and hobbies
- improve health for themselves and their children (Porter, 2003)
- more likely to vote as adults
- more likely to contribute to their community (Lerner, 2009; Zaff et al, 2003)

How Does This Make Cape Girardeau County and Missouri Better?

Youth, who earn their bachelor’s degree, increase annual earnings by $2.4 million over their lifetime (NACUBO, 2012). If 70% of the Cape Girardeau County members participating in 4-H events on the MU Campus go on to earning their Bachelors, 4-H would help young people earn $33.6 million more of lifetime earnings.

Volunteers create, support and are part of the 4-H community. Missouri 4-H volunteers responding to a survey report they contribute on average 100 hours per year. Valuing their time at $19 per hour, based on average Missouri incomes, the contribution of Cape Girardeau County 4-H volunteers was worth more than $427,500 in 2013! More importantly, these adults serve as mentors for our youth, helping them transition into adulthood.
Business Development Programs

Richard Proffer

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 approximately 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.

In Cape Girardeau County, during 2013, business development program specialists and business counselors with MU Extension, Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers (MO SBTDC), Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (MO PTAC), Missouri Environmental Program, Missouri Career Options Project, and the Missouri Market Development program served 415 people and their companies with business start-up and management counseling, training, and other assistance. In addition, entrepreneurs and business owners in Cape Girardeau County reported the following economic impact and activity as a result of the services provided by the MU Extension Business Development Program:

- New jobs: 25
- Sales increases: $5,488,268
- New businesses: 4
- Jobs retained: 75
- Loans and investments in business: $1,464,609
- Clients/companies receiving business counseling: 329
- Business training attendees and conference participants: 86

Overall, the University of Missouri’s Business Development Programs (BDP) served 17,207 people and their businesses state-wide.
**The Business Development Program Delivery Network includes**

Business Development Specialists headquartered at University of Missouri Extension centers; centers located on the University of Missouri campuses at Columbia, Kansas City, St. Louis and Rolla; and centers at most of the state universities across Missouri. The named programs delivered through this network include:

**Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers (MO SBTDC)** – Funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration, this award is matched on the local level by state university hosts and private sector partners. Services include individualized business counseling and a wide variety of educational opportunities. One of the products offered through those centers is the MoFAST SBIR/STTR assistance. Specialists in this area work with university faculty and other innovators to win awards in support of the commercialization of technology.

**Missouri Procurement Assistance Centers (MO PTAC)** -- Funded by the U.S. Defense Logistics Agency this program helps businesses win government contracts for a wide range of products and services.

**Career Options** – Improving individual capacity is the focus of the MU Extension Career Options program, which is funded through a partnership with the Missouri Department of Economic Development Workforce Development unit. This program assists displaced workers and others in many ways, including through the exploration of business ownership and career repositioning following company closings, layoffs and other employment-related changes.

**Missouri Environmental Program** -- Showing businesses how to save money by reducing waste, understanding regulations and using recycled materials.
Family Nutrition Education Programs

Ann Knight
Nutrition Program Assistant

University of Missouri Extension (UME) Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP) reached 6,843 low-income participants with nutrition education in Cape Girardeau County during 2013 year. FNEP provides information on nutrition, food safety, and physical activity for lifelong health and fitness.

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

During the 2013 year, 5,112 youths and 1,731 adults were served through schools, community groups and agencies. The following is a list of the locations where participants were served: S.E. Mo. Area on Aging, Day Care @ Work, Gibson Recovery, Greater Dimension Ministries, Salvation Army Pantry and Soup Kitchen, Cape Girardeau Library, Jefferson Elementary, Just Kids, LDC1-Main, Clippard Elementary, Delta Elementary, Franklin Elementary, South Elementary.

Schools and Agencies:
Southeast Mo. Area Agency on Aging-125 adults
Gibson Recovery – 22 adults
Greater Dimensions – 23 adults
Salvation Army and Soup Kitchen – 77 adults

There was a total of 3,706 youth direct contacts at the following schools and childcare centers.
Jefferson Elementary 1,249 contacts, Clippard Elementary 328 contacts, Delta Elementary 315 contacts, Franklin Elementary 432 contacts, South Elementary 1268 contacts, Just Kids LDC 1-Main, 21 contacts, Day Care @ Work 37 contacts and Cape Girardeau Library, 56 contacts.
2,890 Youths and Adults received information from the Show Me Nutrition Education Display Boards that were displayed at schools and agencies throughout Cape Girardeau County.

In addition to the numbers, local success stories demonstrate program impact.

Success Story from Ann Knight, Nutrition Program Assistant for Cape Girardeau County.
Recently, I was teaching the 4th grade lesson on reading nutrition labels. Later in the day I saw a fourth grader and he had a package of whole grain goldfish crackers. He said, “look Ms. Knight, the first ingredient is whole grain so that means that is the main ingredient and it is whole grain too”!

In Summary, it has been a successful year in Cape Girardeau County.

If you need further information about the Family Nutrition Education Program (FNEP) please contact Linda Morgan, Project Director/Nutrition Specialist
Family Nutrition Education Program
University of MO Extension
1723 West Bus. Hwy 60, Su. 3
Dexter, MO 63841
(573)-614-7110
(573)-614-7337 fax
morganlj@missouri.edu
Mary Gosche, Human Development Specialist

Each year our goal is to offer un-biased, research based educational programs to families and individuals with the goal of improving their quality of life.

GRANDPARENT SUPPORT GROUP
Meets monthly in the Extension Office. About 6 grandparents raising their grandchildren take part in educational programs and sharing time.

PARENTING EDUCATION

BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES
This 5 part series was offered at the Cape Girardeau County Extension Center in Jackson with a multi-cultured group of 28 adults and 14 children. Community partners trained by Extension help facilitate the program. Great impact evaluations.

PARENTING CORNERS
A permanent corner is in the Extension Office to provide pertinent information for parents and individuals.

MEDIA
Briefings on Family Matters Newsletter. Mailed quarterly to 260 county residents.
Article in TBY in the Southeast Missourian Newspaper on Matter of Balance Program.

COMMUNITY COALITIONS
Univ. of Mo. Ext. takes an active role in the Cape Gir. Co. Caring Council, Teen Pregnancy Responsibility Network, Child Care Training Consortium, Kinship Care Committee of SE MO and other agencies. Efforts are made to share information and combine to better serve the citizens of Cape Girardeau Co.
ABSTINENCE EDUCATION PROGRAM
Three session program presented to Oak Ridge 8th graders. Approximately 17 youth served.
Pre/post test results showed 10% increase in knowledge. Time for Talk three classes each for boys and girls at Nell Holcomb. Total youth attended: 32

SPECIAL TRAININGS OFFERED

Stay Strong Stay Healthy Series of exercise programs 20 participants, 10 sessions. Post assessments shown improvement in balance and flexibility in all who completed the class.

A Matter of Balance 8 session workshop series to prevent falls at the House of Hope in south Cape area with 15 African American females
AARP Walking Program – 71 participants (4 sessions)

Chaired Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Conference –55 participants. Member of State Grandparent coalition.

Eating from the Garden school. Enrichment program, supervised building of the gardens, co-coordinated training for volunteers(10). Coordinated the volunteers for 13 sessions in 4 – 4th grade classrooms at South Elem. in Jackson. Number of children served 106. Garden produced tomatoes, sweet potatoes and cool fall crops.
The Marriage Garden Self-study marriage enrichment program
Available upon request and at a county clerk’s office.

FAMILY COMMUNITY EDUCATION
Two leader training sessions with 8 workshops offered by Extension for their club meetings. Volunteer hours recorded by the members estimated at over 20,000. 84 weighted blankets and 46 lap pads made for autistic children. Serve as an Advisor, attends and coordinates County Quarterly Meetings.

New Programs in Human Development

Mental Health First Aid Training – 8 hour training  Total attendance: 14. All participants passed the on-site quiz for certification. Several clients shared, “Great workshop for the new professional. Mary Gosche showed confidence and ease of presentation. The training was clear and concise.”

MU Extension: Health Care Initiative - Two workshops held in county to help citizens understand Affordable Health Care Law. Total attendance: 18 adults. MU Extension’s role is to provide facts, clear Up confusion, help citizens to comply with the law, understand health insurance options and make informed health insurance decisions.
Agriculture: Agronomy and Livestock

Anthony Ohmes, Agronomy Specialist

Soybean Crop Management Conference

National Ag Statistics service indicates that approximately 40 million bushels of soybeans are produced in southeast MO out of which approximately 2 million bushels are produced on 64,000 acres in Cape Girardeau County. University of Missouri Regional Extension Specialists organized, facilitated and provided information to 210 producers, certified crop advisors, industry representatives, state and federal agencies at the 2013 Soybean Production Meeting. University of Missouri has been hosting this meeting for over 10 years. This meeting provides non-biased research based information that is relevant to those who work in or with the agricultural industry in southeast Missouri. This regional meeting hosted by regional extension specialists provides an opportunity for citizens from every county in southeast Missouri to hear University State Specialists from both Missouri and neighboring state land grant institutions such as University of Arkansas. The Regional Agronomy Specialists housed in Cape Girardeau County helped organize and provided research based information on glyphosate resistant weeds. Other topics for this meeting included insect management, soybean varieties, research in attaining 100 bushel soybeans and technology were topics in 2013. This program is co-sponsored by the MO Soybean Association.

Certified Crop Advisor Meeting

University of Missouri Extension, in conjunction with University of Missouri Fisher Delta Research Center, co-hosted the Certified Crop Advisors meeting for 35 southeast Missouri crop consultants who needed continuing education units in integrated pest management, nutrient management, crop production and soil & water management. This regional meeting attracts crop advisors from counties throughout southeast Missouri, including Cape Girardeau County. Crop consultants can obtain 4 hours in each subject area for a total of 16 hours over two days. This research based information then in turn helps these consultants make informed decisions on row crops in southeast Missouri.
Regional Corn Meeting
Approximately 450,000 acres of corn are grown in southeast MO out of which approximately 40,000 acres are grown in Cape Girardeau County. University of Missouri Regional Extension Specialists organized, facilitated and provided information to 160 producers, certified crop advisors, industry representatives as well as representatives from federal agencies such as USDA-NRCS at the 2013 Regional Corn Meeting. Also on hand was a farm journalist from Mid-America Farmer Grower. Research based information was provided by state university specialists from Missouri and Tennessee on corn diseases, insects, and weeds along with information in all other aspects of producing corn in southeast Missouri including fertility and plant development. Those in attendance produce or provide a service to the production of corn in all corn producing counties in southeast MO including Cape Girardeau County. This information provides impact that result in a better understanding of maximizing corn production by making informed decisions. This meeting was co-sponsored by Corn Growers Assoc. and the ag service industry.

Regional Wheat Meeting
25,000 acres of wheat were planted in Cape Girardeau County in 2013. Wheat yield was up by 15% across southeast MO, and up 6% in Cape Girardeau County. University of Missouri Regional Extension Specialists organized, facilitated and provided information to 41 wheat producers and those consultants, industry representatives and agents from USDA-NRCS who provide information on wheat acres throughout southeast MO. This meeting was held at the Cape Girardeau Extension Center. The Regional Agronomy Specialist housed in Cape Girardeau County provided research based information in the area of wheat development and insect and disease management. Additional information on marketing, fertility and weed management were provided by specialists with University of Missouri.

Forage Production Consultation
University of Missouri Regional Extension Specialist housed in Cape Girardeau County provided research based information to forage producers throughout southeast Missouri. These producers and those in the agricultural service industry were provided information on seeding rates and planting dates of forages common to our area as well as fertility recommendations and insect and weed management. Following one of the worst droughts in recent decades in 2012, producers were faced with many challenges including the loss of established stands of pasture grass and legumes and increased weed pressure. University of Missouri Extension provided information in the form of one-on-one consultation, field visits, walk-ins and electronic communication via phone and internet to over 100 clients in 2013.

Soil Testing Consultation
University of Missouri Regional Agronomy Specialist housed in Cape Girardeau County reviews all soil tests results from counties throughout southeast Missouri on all major agronomic crops grown in those counties which include corn, soybean, wheat, grain sorghum, pasture and hay. Consultation is provided to producers specific to their soil test results for these particular crops either face-to-face, written correspondence or electronic communication via email or phone. 497 soil tests were reviewed and information provided to improve soil pH and nutrient management in order to improve crop production.
**Private and Commercial Applicator Training**

University of Missouri Regional Agronomy Specialist housed in Cape Girardeau County provided research based information in the areas of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), environmental stewardship, and pesticide safety to 38 applicators over the 2013 growing season either one-on-one or groups. In addition, Weed and Herbicide Management information was provided to over 50 commercial pesticide applicators at the southeast Missouri Regional Commercial Applicator Recertification Training hosted by University of Missouri in partnership with Missouri Department of Agriculture and facilitated in Cape Girardeau County. Both of these educational areas help applicators and handlers of pesticides make informed decisions that are both economically and environmentally sound.

**Pest and Crop Injury Identification and Management Consultation**

University of Missouri Regional Agronomy Specialist housed in Cape Girardeau County provided research based information to producers and those in the ag service industry in the areas of weed, insect and disease identification and crop injury identification as well as management decisions on each individual case. One area in particular that is negatively impacting agriculture production is herbicide resistant weeds such as pigweed and horseweed. Weeds can cause more than 27% loss in soybean yield the first 3 weeks after crop emergence. When weeds become resistant to an herbicide it increases the likelihood of yield loss because of the void in herbicide choices. Information on herbicide management to reduce these losses through herbicide programs was provided via field visits, walk-ins, and electronic communication via phone or internet. In addition to weed identification, insect and disease identification was provided to citizens throughout Cape Girardeau County on row crops, hay and pasture, lawn, and garden crops.
Roger Eakins, Part-time Livestock Specialist

Since his retirement in 2011, Roger has continued to work as a part-time Specialist serving the county and region for the Missouri Performance Tested Bull Sales and the Show Me Select Heifer Program and Sales.

The Show Me Select Replacement Heifer program has continued to be a statewide and regional program. The Livestock Specialist housed in Cape Girardeau County coordinates the SEMO Region 3 Heifer Program and the SEMO Show Me Select Sale. Sales are held at Fruitland Livestock Sales in Cape Girardeau County. In 2013 18 producers in Cape Girardeau County enrolled 342 heifers in the program. The program objectives are (1) Producers implement a Total Quality Management Strategy to on farm heifer development (2) Enhance marketing opportunities for and add value to Missouri raised heifers (3) Provide a reliable source of quality replacement based on management preproduction and genetics by retained ownership or marketing heifers for added income. The two sales held in Cape County in 2013 Grossed $800,725.00 for producers on 416 heifers sold. Since the program started in 1998 producers have sold 6005 heifers for a gross of $7,890,185.00 Fifty-eight Cape County producers requested buyer numbers at the two 2013 sales. The added values of genetics and calving have added $423.00 to the value of a Show Me Heifer over a non-Show Me Heifer.

Producers have requested information on AI programs, genetics, bull selection, health programs and Nutrition because of the Show Me Select Program.

Quality Genetics, The Performance Test Program and Tested Bull Sale adds quality genetics to the region and also added value in sales to producers selling seed stock. The Livestock Specialist in Cape Girardeau County answers questions and relays information on genetics, selection, nutrition and value added cattle production. Bulls sold in the sale averaged $2570.00 in 2013. Producers selling finished cattle have purchased bulls from the bull sale and have added value of $120.00 per head sold over other cattle in their herd directly because of the sire purchased. One producer, in 15 years, had sold 1500 head and averaged $89 per head added value over the base market price for a total of $135,000.00 added value. These are from bulls purchased in the sale.