

MU Extension in Dent County 2015

MU Extension is the University of Missouri's classroom in communities across the state. Created by federal land-grant and state statutes, MU Extension connects people to research-based education that improves the economy and people's quality of life. No other educational institution has this statewide mandate.

MU Extension provides practical education to more than 2.3 million Missourians annually.

MU Extension is relevant, reliable and responsive to today's needs:

- Business start-up and retention
- Nutrition and health
- Agriculture and natural resources
- Lawns and gardens
- Family finances
- Community leadership
- 4-H youth development



**Nutrition and Health:
Cooking Matters at the Store**

Tours provide families with hands-on education as they shop for food, giving them skills to compare foods for cost and nutrition.

Participants learn how to plan and budget for healthy, affordable, and delicious meals for their families.



4-H Develops Youth to Lead, Volunteers to Serve

Studies show 4-H members are three times more likely to participate in community service than their peers. After graduation, 77 percent of high school seniors who have participated in 4-H programming pursue higher education, and 14 percent enter the workforce.

Left: 2015 Dent County 4-H members at Camp Clover Point. Summer camp is one of the most valuable experiences a child can have!

198 youth participated in 4-H in Dent County in 2015, with 58 trained adult volunteers and 8 youth volunteers.

YOUR **SOURCE** FOR
PRACTICAL EDUCATION
ON **ALMOST ANYTHING**



Involved in 28 community service projects, all four Dent County 4-H Clubs received state 4-H community service awards for their contributions to their local communities. Youth are learning the importance of being involved in their communities.

4-H/FFA Expo: Another great year is in the books for this annual event. Over 200 Dent County youth showed livestock and presented project exhibits, and the market sale totaled over \$166,000.



Healthy Schools, Healthy Communities

Partnership: Dent County Extension Associate Melissa DuBois serves as the School Wellness Coordinator for this project that supports schools to increase student health and wellness. Over thirty 3rd-8th grade girls participated in the end of season Tigress Run-A-Thon, which raised just under \$1000 to donate to local charities.

Community Development: Below: Stephen Foutes with Missouri Division of Tourism discusses the economic impact of tourism during the Innovate Ozarks professional development conference in October. Photo by Andrew Sheeley/The Salem News.



Agriculture: Bottom left, Producers who attended the Freeze Branding Workshop received “hands-on” instruction by branding replacement heifers at MU Wurdack Farm. Freeze branding provides a permanent identification that assists producers with better record keeping and herd management, while also serving as a theft deterrent to would be cattle thieves.

AmeriCorps Healthy Food Initiative: Dent County Extension is hosting an AmeriCorps volunteer in 2015-2016 focusing on increasing school /community gardens and education programs on nutrition, farm to table, and healthy cooking. Support for this project was provided by Dent County Extension Council, MU Extension East Central Region, Healthy Dent County and Judson Young Foundation. Below, AmeriCorps member Ben Latimer assists the Green Forest 5th graders with their new school garden. Photo: Andrew Sheeley/The Salem News.



Dent County Extension,
112 E. 5th Street, Suite 4, Salem
573-729-3196/dentco@missouri.edu
www.extension.missouri.edu/dent

YOUR **SOURCE** FOR
PRACTICAL EDUCATION
ON
ALMOST **ANYTHING**