## Extension Offices in Southwest Missouri

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Fax Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regional Office</strong></td>
<td>3003 E. Chestnut Expwy. Suite 200, Springfield, 65802</td>
<td>(417) 865-0707</td>
<td>(417) 865-2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BARRY COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>Courthouse 700 Main, Suite 4, Cassville, 65625</td>
<td>(417) 847-3161</td>
<td>(417) 847-3162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BARTON COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>801 East 12th Street, Lamar, 64759</td>
<td>(417) 682-3579/682-4125</td>
<td>(417) 682-4125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHRISTIAN COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>105 N. 2nd St., Ozark, 65721</td>
<td>(417) 581-3558</td>
<td>(417) 485-4802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DADE COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>2 N. Main Street, Greenfield, 65661</td>
<td>(417) 637-2112</td>
<td>(417) 637-2113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOUGLAS COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>203 SE 2nd Ave., PO Box 668, Ava, 65608</td>
<td>(417) 683-4409</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GREENE COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>2400 S. Scenic Ave., Springfield, 65807</td>
<td>(417) 881-8909</td>
<td>(417) 823-4818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOWELL COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>1376 Bill Virdon Blvd., West Plains, MO 65775</td>
<td>(417) 256-2391</td>
<td>(417) 256-8569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JASPER COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>Courthouse 302 South Main, Carthage, 64836</td>
<td>(417) 358-2158</td>
<td>(417) 358-2159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LAWRENCE COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>Courthouse P.O. Box 388, Mt. Vernon, 65712</td>
<td>(417) 466-3102</td>
<td>(417) 466-7299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MCDONALD COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>306 Harmon Street, P.O. Box 336, Pineville, 64856</td>
<td>(417) 223-4775</td>
<td>(417) 223-4737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEWTON COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>18728 Highway 59, Neosho, MO 64850</td>
<td>(417) 455-9500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OZARK COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>526 Third Street, PO Box 187, Gainesville, 65655</td>
<td>(417) 679-3525</td>
<td>(417) 679-3209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STONE COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>108 E 4th Street, P.O. Box 345, Galena, 65656</td>
<td>(417) 357-6812</td>
<td>(417) 357-8442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TANEY COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>122 Felkins Ave., Forsyth, MO 65653</td>
<td>(417) 546-4431</td>
<td>(417) 546-4457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TEXAS COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>1418 S. Sam Houston Blvd., Houston, 65483</td>
<td>(417) 967-4545/4546</td>
<td>(417) 967-4707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEBSTER COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>800 S. Marshall St., Marshfield, 65706</td>
<td>(417) 859-2044</td>
<td>(417) 468-2086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WRIGHT COUNTY</strong></td>
<td>MSU Fruit Exp. Station 9740 Red Spring Road, Mt. Grove, Mo. 65711</td>
<td>(417) 547-7500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Southwest Research Center</strong></td>
<td>14548 Hwy. H, Mt. Vernon, 65712</td>
<td>(417) 466-2148</td>
<td>(417) 466-2109</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

MO Procurement Technical Assistance Center (MOPTAC)

JOPLIN OFFICE: Plaster Hall, Room 107A
3950 E. Newman Rd., Joplin, MO 64801
CONTACT: Phyllis Behrens
Procurement Counselor
Tel: 417-625-9353
Email: behrensp@missouri.edu
Counties Served: Barry, Barton, Cedar, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton and Vernon

SPRINGFIELD OFFICE: 405 N. Jefferson, Suite 1040F, Springfield, MO 65806
CONTACT: Allen J. Waldo
Procurement Counselor
Tel: 417-837-2612
Email: waldoaj@missouri.edu
Counties Served: Christian, Dallas, Greene, Hickory, Jasper, Laclede, Polk, Pulaski, St. Clair, Stone, Taney and Webster

Willis Mushrush
Tel: (417) 256-2391
Email: mushrushw@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Howell
Started with Extension: Dec. 7, 1997
Education background: Bachelor of Science in marketing from MSU and Master of Business Administration from the University of Arkansas.
Relevant past employment: Retail, merchandise manager for J.C. Penney, and human resource manager.
Job responsibilities: The Howell County Extension serves as a liaison to the MO Small Business & Technology Development Center and the MO Procurement Technical Assistance Center (MOPTAC). Services are available to both existing business owners as well as those exploring potential opportunities.
What memberships and programs are you involved in?
- Greater West Plains Chamber of Commerce
- Ozark Heritage Region Economic Development Association
- Ozark Heritage Tourism Association
- Society for Human Resource Management
- Association for Procurement Technical Assistance Centers
- Association for Small Business Development Centers
- National Contract Management Association
- West Plains Elks Lodge
- West Plains Amvets Post #86

Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers (MO SBTDC)

Missouri Southern State University SBTDC
3950 E Newman Rd
Joplin, MO 64801-1595
(417) 625-3128

Missouri State University SBTDC
405 North Jefferson Avenue
Springfield, MO 65806
(417) 837-2617
Natural resource engineering is part of Extension’s focus area of agriculture. These specialists work under the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Specialists with this focus can help with the following:
- farmstead planning
- farm/home planning, construction and ventilation
- water systems — testing, treatment, protection and design and quality
- soil conservation
- pesticide application
- basics of irrigation
- water management around the home
- alternative fuels
- concrete on the farm
- safety programs for equipment
- livestock-management systems
- forage and crop storage
- crop drying
- on-farm feed processing
- farm and home safety
- energy saving on the farm and at home
- indoor air quality/mold
- pond construction
- disaster preparedness
- greenhouses
- forestry programs
- hay harvest and storage
- animal waste management
- energy conservation
- electrical wiring
- farm computer use
- household sewage systems
- land application of waste
- composting
- aquatic plant management
- radon, carbon monoxide, dust mites and termite management
- design concepts for cattle handling facilities

Bob Schultheis
Tel: (417) 859-2044
Email: schultheisr@missouri.edu

Headquarters: Webster

Started with Extension: September 1980

Education: Bachelor’s in agricultural mechanization, Washington State University (1978) and master’s in agricultural engineering, University of Missouri (1980).

Relevant past employment: Grew up on a cash-grain and livestock farm and worked with farm structures and equipment manufacturing.

Responsibilities: To provide education about structures, ventilation, environmental quality, safety, energy conservation, and information technology through different methods.

Memberships: American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, National Assoc. of County Agricultural Agents, Missouri Assoc. of Extension Professionals, University of Missouri Extension Association, and Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Agronomy is a branch of agriculture dealing with field-crop production and soil management. These specialists work under the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialists with this focus can help with the following:</th>
<th>• weed-, insect- and disease-identification and control</th>
<th>• fescue-fungus problems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• soil-testing information</td>
<td>• crop scouting</td>
<td>• weather-related crop problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• fertilizer and pesticide recommendations</td>
<td>• forage-testing information</td>
<td>• current crop situation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• soil conservation</td>
<td>• nitrate tests for forages</td>
<td>• pesticide-use training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• forage production</td>
<td>• poison plants</td>
<td>• pasture management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• fescue-seed production</td>
<td>• variety selection</td>
<td>• warm-season grasses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tim Schnakenberg
Tel: (417) 357-6812
Email: Schnakenbergc@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Stone

Started with Extension: July 1991
Education: Bachelor’s in agronomy from MSU, Springfield, Mo.; Master’s degree in agronomy and crop science from University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.

Relevant past employment: Agronomy specialist in Morgan County for two years; agronomy specialist and county program director in Charleston, Mo., Mississippi County for nine years; working with the Master Gardener program.

Responsibilities: Addressing local needs by helping commercial and part-time farm producers improve their income and quality of life; helping homeowners with their gardening needs; conducting programs in environmental quality, land management and rural economic development.

Jill Scheidt
Tel: (417) 682-3579
Email:scheidtjk@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Barton

Started with Extension: January 2013
Education: Bachelor’s in agronomy and master’s in natural and applied sciences with an agronomy emphasis from MSU, Springfield, MO.

Relevant past employment: Crop consultant with NeCo Seed in Garden City, MO; crop consultant internship with Servi Tech in Hill City, KS (scouted 25,000 acres per week).

Responsibilities: Cover Dade, Barton, Jasper, Newton, and McDonald Counties

Programs: Crop Scouting Report—Research-based solutions are applied to row crop pests and concerns after the fields have been scouted. Report is delivered weekly via phone message and email.
Agronomy is a branch of agriculture dealing with field-crop production and soil management. These specialists work under the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Sarah Kenyon
Tel: (417) 256-2391
Email: KenyonS@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Howell

Extension: 2010

Education: Bachelor degree in agronomy from College of the Ozarks; Master’s degree in crop, soil, and environmental sciences from the University of Arkansas.

Relevant past employment: Forage and crop adviser for Grassland Consultants, a New Zealand-style grazing dairy operation

Responsibilities: Working with crop production and soil management while working toward completing a PhD in plant sciences.

SOIL TESTING AVAILABLE
All local county extension offices offer soil test services. Results are reviewed by our agriculture specialists and either landowners or gardeners are given personalized results. Contact the nearest MU Extension Center for more information on soil testing costs.

Specialists with this focus can help with:
- Entomology and alternative agriculture
- small animals and honey production
- fruit and vegetable production
- general agriculture topics, forage production
- soil conservation and soil-testing information
Agriculture Business is part of Extension’s focus area of agriculture. These specialists work under the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Specialists with this focus can do these programs:
- Profit Focused Agriculture
- Quicken® for Farm Records
- Annie’s Project
- Golden Age Farming
- Farm/Small Business Tax School
- Ag Lenders Seminar

Specialists with this focus can help with the following:
- Leases and Leasing
- Rental and Custom rates
- Fence laws
- Enterprise budgets
- Business Planning
- Agricultural Marketing
- Value-Added Marketing
- Farm planning and policy

• Land prices
• Crop/livestock situation and outlook
• General farm management
• Estate/Retirement planning
• New Business Start-Up

Jennifer Lutzz
Tel: (417) 223-4775
E-mail: lutesjl@Missouri.edu

Headquarters: McDonald


Education: Bachelor’s in food and life science, majoring in poultry science, from the University of Arkansas, and Masters in agricultural economics, University of Arkansas.

Relevant past experience: She worked with Dr. Mike Popp at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville during her graduate program. Her work there focused on the financial and economic analysis of cow-calf and switchgrass production. Her multi-species animal production experience, including beef cattle, poultry, equines, and small ruminants.

Responsibilities: Develop and deliver agribusiness programs that improve lives, communities and economies. Beyond her interests in the poultry and cattle industries, Jennifer follows the markets for both the sheep and goat sectors.

Mark Jenner
Tel: (660)-679-4167
E-mail: jennermw@missouri.edu

Headquarters: Bates

Started with Extension: October 2013

Education: PhD Ag Economics

Relevant past employment: University of California, Davis; Biomass Rules, LLC (consulting); American Farm Bureau Federation; Jenner Farms (hogs in IL); & Peace Corps, Nepal.

Responsibilities: I have a broad background in crop and livestock farm business management including forages and grazing. Ag Business topics include record keeping, farm business planning, risk management, cash rental and leasing, estate planning, and general farm questions. I have additional experience with environmental issues, farm energy, and value-added agriculture. Serving Barton, Bates, Vernon and Jasper counties.
Jim Spencer
Tel: (417) 581-3558
Email: spencerjr@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Christian
Started with Extension: May 2016
Education: Bachelors in agriculture education (University of Missouri) and Masters in practical arts and vocational technical education (University of Missouri).

Relevant Experience: Agricultural education instructor/FFA advisor for 26.5 years, owner/operator of registered Gelbvieh and Balancer beef cattle operation, served as junior programs director and advisor for Heart of America Gelbvieh Junior Association (HAGJA), conducted numerous workshops covering a variety of topics and disciplines for beginning and experienced teachers statewide.

Job Responsibilities: Provide educational opportunities that enable businesses, farms, families and communities to strengthen the economy and enhance the quality of life.

Wesley Tucker
Tel: (417) 326-4916
E-mail: tuckerw@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Polk
Started with Extension: January 2001
Education: Bachelor’s in agricultural economics, University of Missouri; Master’s in ag economics, University of Missouri.

Relevant past employment: Active cow and calf producer. “These on-farm experiences are often used to develop farm management educational programs I offer to producers,” said Tucker.

Responsibilities: Farm management education such as pasture leasing, fence laws, profitable beef production, grazing economics, stockpiling fescue, forage production, fescue toxicosis, beef price forecasting, livestock marketing, leasing beef cows, estate planning, financial statements, and management skills for farm women.

Local, affordable and Research-based Training for Employees
If your business regularly offers programs for employees, either as part of ongoing professional development or as an employee incentive plan, these local University of Missouri Extension specialists can offer affordable research-based educational programming. Program examples include topics like business writing, “RentSmart” training for landlords and tenants, various types of gardening workshops, presentations on personal nutrition, safety and disaster preparedness, making your money count, even Herrmann Brain Dominance workshops. Information can be found on the Greene County Extension website (extension.missouri.edu/greene) under “plans and reports” or under the headline “Programs for Employee Training in Greene County.”
These specialists work under the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. Their emphasis on dairy places emphasis on farming that is concerned with the production of milk, butter, and cheese as well as the farms de-

**Reagan Bluel**

Tel: 417-847-3161  
Email: BluelRJ@missouri.edu  
Headquarters: Barry  
Started with Extension: July 2014  
Education: Bachelor’s degree in animal sciences and a Master’s degree in ruminant nutrition.

**Responsibilities:**  
Working with dairy farmers of all types in Barry, Dade, Greene, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Stone, and Newton counties.

**What attracted you to working with MU Extension?**  
“I am eager to join and complement the strong existing dairy team to serve dairies in our surrounding communities,” said Bleul.

**What do you hope to accomplish as a dairy specialist?**  
“My goal is to keep current on research to empower producers to improve their herd health and profitability through information and dedication,” said Bleul.

**Specialists with this focus can help with the following:**  
- government dairy policy  
- dairy housing  
- milk-production practices  
- dairy feeds and forages  
- dairy-farm management  
- Dairy Herd Improvement Association  
- new technology in dairy  
- economy of dairying  
- milking equipment  
- dairy price supports  
- biotechnology and dairy research  
- computers in dairy research  
- computers in dairy management
Livestock is part of Extension’s focus area of agriculture. These specialists work under the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Specialists with this focus can help with the following:
- livestock nutrition
- on-farm performance evaluation
- steer feedouts
- current livestock situation
- livestock genetics
- general livestock management
- livestock marketing
- producer organizations
- livestock reproduction
- field trials & demonstration
- grazing management
- fescue toxicosis
- Show-Me-Select Replacement Heifer program

**Eldon Cole**

Tel: (417) 466-3102  
Email: colee@missouri.edu  
Headquarters: Lawrence  
Started with Extension: Feb. 1964

**Education:** Bachelor’s degree in agriculture from University of Missouri; Master’s degree in animal husbandry from the University of Missouri.

**Relevant past employment:** Worked with extension since graduation

**Responsibilities:** Provides unbiased research-based information and education about livestock production through a variety of different methods.

**Memberships:** University of Missouri Extension Association, American Society of Animal Science, National Association of County Agricultural Agents and Epsilon Sigma Phi.

**Publications:** Eldon does a monthly “Beef” newsletter and also contributes frequently to the Southwest Region News Service.

**Honors:** Named an Honorary State FFA Degree recipient at the 78th Missouri FFA Convention (2006).

**Randy Wiedmeier**

Tel: 417-256-2391  
Email: wiedmeierr@missouri.edu  
Headquarters: Howell  
Started: Feb. 2015

**Education Background:** Masters of Science in animal science, Washington State University; PhD in animal science from Utah State University.

**Relevant past experience:** Was raised in Montana on a beef cattle and cereal grain farm. For 25 years, was on the faculty at Utah State University. He taught classes in farm animal nutrition, beef cattle production and management. He did research on methods of improving the use of low-quality forages by cattle, sheep, and horses; matching beef cattle production systems to improved irrigated pastures; fetal programming for improving low-quality forage utilization in beef cattle; and dietary detoxification by matching complementary forages in beef cattle.

**Job Responsibilities:** Develop and provide high-quality educational programs for livestock producers in Howell, Douglas, Wright, Taney, Texas, Ozark, and portions of Oregon Counties.
Livestock is part of Extension’s focus area of agriculture and the specialist in this position focuses on sheep and goats.

Dr. Patrick Davis
Tel: (417) 276-3313
Email: davismp@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Cedar
Started: September 2011
Education: Bachelor’s in animal science from University of Missouri – Columbia; masters in animal science (emphasis in beef cattle reproduction) from Oklahoma State University – Stillwater; doctor of philosophy in animal science (emphasis on beef cattle nutrition) from University of Missouri – Columbia.

Relevant Past Employment: USDA Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center, Neb. (Aug. 2009-Nov. 2010) where he conducted research on ruminant nutrition. Worked as an Extension Associate with University of Missouri on the MAESTRO program (Dec. 2010 to Aug. 2011) to educate farmers on how to be more energy efficient on the farm through energy audits and installing new efficient technologies.

Responsibilities: Educate livestock producers on proper management, nutrition, reproduction, breeding, genetics and marketing of their livestock. Helps with programs like Missouri Show – Me Select Heifer Program, Missouri Show Me Quality Assurance Program, Pork Quality Assurance Plus Program, and Missouri Steer Feedout.

Counties served: Barton, Cedar, Dade, St. Clair and Vernon counties.

Andy McCorkill
Tel: (417) 345-7551
Email: mccorkilla@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Dallas
Started with Extension: March 2011
Job Title: livestock specialist
Education Background: MNAS with an emphasis in Beef Cow/Calf Production from Missouri State University; Bachelor’s in general agriculture from Missouri State University; Associate’s in welding technology and drafting and design technology from Ozarks Technical Community College

Relevant past experience: While at Missouri State, McCorkill worked at the Darr Agriculture Center and worked extensively with the beef program. He was involved with daily management of the registered cow herd, as well as being involved with research and teaching activities. He is also actively involved in his families farming operations.

Job Responsibilities: Develop and deliver livestock programming in Dallas, Hickory, Polk, Webster, Greene, and Christian Counties.
Horticulture is part of Extension’s focus area of agriculture. These specialists work under the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and the Master Gardeners program.

Specialists with this focus can help with the following:
- marketing produce
- home food-production
- alternative agricultural enterprises
- commercial fruit and vegetable production
- lawn and garden issues, needs and trends

Patrick Byers
Tel: (417) 881-8909
Email: byerspl@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Greene
Started with Extension: May 2008

Education background: Bachelor’s in horticulture, University of Missouri; Masters in horticulture, University of Arkansas.

Relevant past employment: 18 years with Missouri State University’s State Fruit Experiment Station in Mountain Grove; three years with the University of Arkansas Fruit Substation.

Job responsibilities: Outreach educational activities in southwest Missouri focused on horticulture, both commercial and residential; coordinating the Master Gardener program in Greene County.

Master Gardeners

The Master Gardener Program is a volunteer community-service organization. Interested area residents volunteer to provide service to their communities in exchange for horticultural training leading to certification. Volunteer activities include work with non-profit organizations, civic and service groups and others. The following persons can be contacted about the program in their counties.

- Janet LaFon, Jasper County, (417) 358-2158
- Tim Schnakenberg, Stone County, (417) 357-6812
- John Hobbs, McDonald County, (417) 223-4775
- Bob Schultheis, Webster County, (417) 859-2044
- Gordon Carriker, Christian County, (417) 581-3558
- Jill Scheidt, Barton County, (417) 682-3579
- Patrick Byers, Greene County, (417) 881-8909
Kelly McGowan
Horticulture educator
Tel: (417) 881-8909
Email: mcgowank@missouri.edu

**Headquarters:** Greene

**Started with Extension:** 2012

**Education background:** Bachelors in horticulture from Missouri State University

**Relevant past employment:** Horticulture Research Assistant at the Southwest Research Center in Mount Vernon, Missouri. Involved with the Master Gardeners of Greene County since 2010.

**Job responsibilities:** Working with the Master Gardeners. I coordinate the Core Training for the Greene County Master Gardeners and assist the Master Gardener Hotline staff with calls, e-mails, and walk-ins as needed. I also assist Patrick Byers with developing and planning educational opportunities for the public.

**Coverage area:** Greene County primarily but McGowan’s educational efforts will reach residents of other counties.

**Partnership / Dual Role:** McGowan’s position is funded 50% by the University of Missouri and 50% by Friends of the Garden. In her role with FOG, she coordinates volunteers and all aspects of work in the gardens at the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center.

Robert Balek
Horticulture specialist
Tel: 417-358-2158
Email: balekr@missouri.edu

**Headquarters:** Jasper County

**Started with Extension:** 2014

**Education Background:** Bachelors in horticulture, University of Illinois; Masters in horticulture, Kansas State University.

**Relevant Past Employment:** Balek has a diversified horticulture background. His past work has included greenhouse management and crop production; landscape design, sales, construction, and maintenance; and landscape experience with public parks, university campuses, tourist attractions, residential and commercial property.

**Job Responsibilities:** Horticulture specialist serving residents of Barry, Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, and Stone counties. He will also be providing leadership and training for area Master Gardener programs.

**Is there a group you are targeting for your services?** “The Master Gardener program is established in several counties, and others have shown interest in their areas. These folks can be served by contacting the nearest MU Extension office for information,” said Balek.
Renette Wardlow
Tel: (417) 881-8909
Email: warlwr@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Greene

Started with Extension: January 1987

Education: Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in human development and family studies from University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

Relevant past employment: Came to extension right after graduating from college.

Responsibilities: Programs related to parenting, youth development, character education, teen issues, anger and stress management, building positive self-esteem and child development.

Angie Fletcher
Tel: (417) 967-4545
Email: fletchera@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Texas

Started with Extension: June 2002

Education: Bachelors and masters in education from Drury University.


Responsibilities: MU Human Development Specialist, Douglas County Program Director


Specialists with this focus can do the following programs: child-development, building strong families, anger management, character education, children and divorce, parenting skills, stress management, marital enrichment, communication skills, depression and suicide, character development, aging and elderly programs, building a positive self-esteem, sibling rivalry, conflict management, balancing work and family, family violence, understanding different personalities, dealing with grief, goal setting and time management and more.
**FAMILY FINANCIAL EDUCATION**

Family Financial Education is part of MU Extension’s focus of human environmental sciences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialists with this focus can help with the following:</th>
<th>money management</th>
<th>family finances</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>consumer education</td>
<td>family legal/financial affairs</td>
<td>buy skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>consumer protection</td>
<td>credit</td>
<td>investment and savings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**John Wood**

Tel: 417-683-4409  
Email: woodjo@missouri.edu  
**Headquarters:** Douglas  
**Started with Extension:** December 2016

**Education Background:** Bachelor's from University of Missouri in Consumer and Family Economics with a concentration in Personal Financial Management; Juris Doctor from the University of Missouri; Master's from MU in Consumer and Family Economics from the Department of Personal Financial Planning.

**Past experience:** “I have worked in financial and legal services in various capacities, usually helping individuals and families achieve their financial goals with debt and financial counseling and management, estate planning and asset protection,” said Wood.

**Job Responsibilities:** Develop and provide high quality educational programs. Participate in interdisciplinary teams, committees and task forces. Collect qualitative and quantitative data to evaluate impact of programs and services.

**Nellie Lamers**

Tel: (417) 546-4431  
Email: lamersn@missouri.edu  
**Headquarters:** Taney  
**Started with Extension:** January 1999

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in business and marketing, University of Missouri – Columbia; Master's in educational technology from University of Missouri – Columbia (2003).

**Responsibilities:** Provides educational information on topics such as money management, credit, insurance, investments and savings, estate planning, time management, and general consumer education/protection issues in Taney, Christian and Greene counties. Lamers also coordinates the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, part of the MoTax Education Initiative, in Taney and Stone counties.
Nutrition and Health Education is part of MU Extension’s focus area of human environmental sciences. Included is the Family Nutrition Education Program. FNEP provides programming that meets your clients' needs considering age, culture, reading level and abilities. Lessons with hands-on activities are designed for youth and the adults that support them, pregnant teens, and immigrant populations.

Terri Fossett
Tel: (417) 886-2059
Email: fossettt@missouri.edu

Headquarters: UM Extension
2160 W. Chesterfield
Suite F200, Springfield

Started with Extension: April 2000

Education: Bachelor's in psychology from Drury University.

Job title: Project Director

Responsibilities: Coordinate the Family Nutrition Education Program in 17 counties of Southwest Missouri and provide leadership for personnel, grant administration, financial management, curriculum implementation, program management, evaluation and reporting.

Specialists with this focus can help with:
- diet and health
- resource management
- food buying and storage
- reading food labels
- “Stay Strong, Stay Healthy” program
- “Dining with Diabetes”
- food preparation
- food preservation
- weight control
- “A New You”
- food, nutrition and health frauds
- misleading nutritional claims in ads
- “Cooking for One or Two”
- food composition
- safe food handling
- My Plate
- feeding infants, children
- “Think Your Drink”
- “When Parents Won’t Eat”

Regional Nutrition Office in Springfield

On May 1, 2011, University of Missouri Extension’s Family Nutrition Education Program opened a new location in Springfield at 2160 W. Chesterfield Blvd. Suite F200, Springfield, Mo. The new FNEP office phone number is (417) 886-2059. The location is sometimes referred to as the Greene County Extension Annex.
Pam Duitsman is working 75% of her time on a grant from USDA AFRI (Agriculture and Food Research Initiative). The focus of the grant is to assist successful formation and development of Food Policy Councils in the State of Missouri. Food Policy councils are being formed across the nation in response to growing concerns about our Food System. The area of concern may differ, but a few areas of focus are: food deserts, obesity rates, the loss of prime agricultural lands, a dwindling farmer population, and environmental problems such as water contamination or soil erosion. Food Policy councils help address these challenges and others.

Dr. Pamela Duitsman
Tel: (417) 881-8909
E-mail: duitsmanp@missouri.edu

Started with Extension: Nov. 1, 2009

Headquartered: Greene

Education background: PhD and master’s degrees from Iowa State University.

Relevant past employment: Officially assigned to Greene County since 2009 but served as FNEP director at a different office location in Springfield. Regional director and director of programs for the American Cancer Society; nutritionist for St. John’s Health Systems, and nutrition specialist for MU Extension 1997-2000.

Current assignment: Moved to the Greene County Extension office as a full time Nutrition and Health Specialist on Jan. 7, 2013. Pam will be working 75% on a grant from the USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI). The project is focused on enhancing food security in selected Missouri Communities, and working with Food Policy Councils.

Presentation Programs:
- Nutrition and Aging: Prevention of Chronic Diseases
- Protecting the Aging Brain
- Cancer Prevention 101
- Eye Health and Prevention of Macular Degeneration
- Health Promoting Phytochemicals
- Whole Food Matters (comparing whole vs processed foods)
- Diabetes Basics and the Glycemic Index – a method to control blood glucose
- Health Implications of Omega 3 Fatty Acids
- Benefits and Concerns of the Industrialized Food System
- Health Implications of Industrialized Food vs Local Food
- Hunger and Food Security
- Strengths and Limitations of Local Food Systems
- Stay Strong Stay Healthy
- Chronic Disease Self-Management (Free – paid for by grant)
- Health Insurance Education Initiative
Nutrition and Health Education is part of MU Extension’s focus area of human environmental sciences. Included is the Family Nutrition Education Program. FNEP provides programming that meets your clients’ needs considering age, culture, reading level and abilities. Lessons with hands-on activities are designed for youth and the adults that support them, pregnant teens, and immigrant populations.

**Lindsey Stevenson**

Tel: 417-682-3579  
Email at gordonlk@missouri.edu  
**Started with Extension:** June 2015

**Headquartered:** Headquartered in Barton County but also serving Barry, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald and Newton counties

**Education Background:** Bachelors in exercise science and masters in human performance and wellness from Pittsburg State University.

**Relevant experience:** Graduate Teaching Assistant for two years at Pittsburg State, instructing Lifetime Fitness Concepts and fitness courses.

**Job Responsibilities:** Plan, deliver, coordinate and report adult educational programs in nutrition and health subject areas to Missouri citizens. Educational programs will be in areas such as nutrition, health, food safety, food resource management, physical activity promotion.

Is there a group you are targeting for your services? “I think Extension’s nutrition and health programs are nicely well-rounded and will hit most, if not all, populations, but I am looking forward to reaching out to the chronic disease population. Some of the self-management programs that I have already heard about seem accepted by the community and therefore, quite successful. I hope to continue that trend,” said Stevenson.

**Stephanie Johnson**

Tel: 417-256-2391  
Email: johnsonstephanie@missouri.edu  
**Headquartered:** Howell County. But also serving Douglas, Ozark, Texas and Wright.

**Started with Extension:** Sept. 2015

**Education Background:** Bachelor’s degree in Exercise Science/Kinesiology from Eastern Illinois University (2007); Masters in Exercise Science/Kinesiology from Eastern Illinois University (2008).

**Relevant Experience:** Assistant in University Human Performance Lab at Eastern Illinois University. Wellness Coordinator at Ozarks Medical Center in West Plains (2009-2015).

**Job Responsibilities:** Plan, deliver, coordinate and report adult educational programs in nutrition and health subject areas to Missouri citizens. Educational programs will be in nutrition, health, food safety, food resource management and physical activity promotion.

What types of programs will you offer? “The ultimate goal is leading people toward healthier lifestyle choices,” said Johnson. “I am currently being trained in an exercise class and will begin a few different nutrition curriculums in the next month or two.”
HOUSING & URBAN DESIGN

Housing and environmental design is part of Extension’s focus on human environmental services. Named programs include: HOME (a first-time homebuyers program); HomeWorks (program for first time homebuyers and other homeowners about basic home repair, maintenance and financial management); Healthy Indoor Air for America’s Homes (a national consumer education program dealing with improved indoor air quality); Community Revitalization and Sustainability (community participatory process and training program) and Affordable Housing through Community Partnership (a planned housing development process).

Presentation topics:

- Sustainability
- Smart Growth
- Alternative / Renewable Energy
- Energy Efficiency
- Low Cost, No Cost Energy Savers
- LEED & Performance based buildings
- Building Technology - Conventional, Emerging, Natural & Indigenous
- ICF’s (Insulated Concrete Form) Design & Construction
- Disaster Resistant Building Design & Construction
- RentSmart - Landlord / Tenant Training
- Disaster Readiness & Preparation
- Universal Design - Aging-in-Place
- CoHousing
- Multi-Generational
- Senior
- Eco Villages
- Increasing public value for sustainable human environments and global impact
- Community Development - Building capacity for Sustainable Change

Jeff Barber
2400 S. Scenic Avenue
Springfield, 65807
Tel: (417) 881-8909
E-mail: barberj@missouri.edu

Started with Extension: September 2005

Education: Master’s of architecture from the University of Oklahoma, with an emphasis in building technology and sustainable design; Bachelor’s in art and architecture from Drury University.

Relevant past employment: Barber has been an architect since 1993. Projects have included single and multi-family dwellings, retail buildings, churches, schools, banks, hospitals and the fire station and storm shelter in Pearce City. He has taught at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Missouri State University, Drury University and the University of Oklahoma.

Partners: Barber partners with Drury University, Project Core and the Ozarks Greene Building Coalition for a majority of his programs and projects.
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Providing opportunities for youth to develop positive self-esteem, leadership skills, decision-making skills, citizenship and practical life-skills are major objectives of the extension youth program. Youth specialists and education assistants teach adult volunteer leaders and youth through a variety of activities and events. Membership in 4-H is evenly distributed in Missouri between rural areas, small towns and suburbs and the state’s urban areas.

Specialists with this focus can help with the following:

- coordination of county 4-H program
- citizenship programs
- volunteer-leader training
- career exploration
- 4-H school enrichment
- 4-H community clubs
- youth entrepreneurship
- cultural-heritage and diversity
- community service
- 4-H Expanded Food-Nutrition Education Program groups
- leadership programs/team building
- 4-H fairs and shows
- practical life-skills
- 4-H special-interest groups
- environmental education
- character education
- International Youth Exchange
- show for “special needs” kids
- partnerships with youth-serving agencies
- decision making
- self-esteem/peer pressure
- camping programs
- substance-abuse prevention
- 4-H individual participation

Karla Deaver

Tel: (417) 466-3102
E-mail: deaverk@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Lawrence
Started with Extension: Dec 1989

Education: Bachelors degree in animal science from Missouri State University; Master’s in dairy science from University of Missouri-Columbia.

Relevant past employment: Sales representative with Merck & Co.; farm service director with KWTO Radio.

Responsibilities: Providing leadership in the development of community-focused programs that promote positive youth development. A key focus area is the traditional 4-H club programs in Lawrence and Dade counties, but also working with schools and other youth agencies on collaborative programs.
Robert McNary
Tel: (417) 358-2158
Email: mcnaryrl@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Jasper
Started with Extension: December 2003

Education: Received a Master’s degree in education (1985) and a Bachelor’s degree in agriculture (1981) from the University of Missouri.

Relevant past employment: Taught agriculture education for the Jasper R-5 School District from 1981 to 2003; former member of the Jasper County extension council.

Responsibilities: Provides leadership for University of Missouri Extension’s 4-H programs in Barton, Cedar and Jasper counties.

Memberships: University of Missouri Extension Association; Missouri Association of Extension 4-H Youth Workers and the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents.

Mike Coffey
Telephone: 417-455-9500
Email: CoffeyMD@Missouri.edu
Headquarters: Newton County. Also serving Barry and McDonald.

Stated with Extension: Sept. 2015

Education Background: Bachelors from Southwestern College in Winfield, KS; Masters from Saint Paul’s School of Theology in Kansas City, KS.

Relevant experience: Nine years of 4-H experience as parent, club leader, and project leader; 15 years of experience as director of youth camps in Missouri and Michigan.

Job Responsibilities: Planning, implementing and evaluating positive youth and volunteer development programs through 4-H clubs, schools, youth-serving agencies, community collaborations, camps and fairs. This specialist also works with other 4-H specialists in the region to conduct regional events and camps.

What are some goals you have for the coming year? “To learn the job, to increase enrollment in 4-H in my three counties, and begin to build strategic partnership with our minority communities, as well as our business community,” said Coffey.
Janice Emery
Tel: 417-967-4545
Email: emeryjd@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Texas
Started with Extension: 2014
Counties served: Texas, Wright and Webster

Education Background: Bachelor of Science in Communication Arts (Public Relations and Marketing double major) from Drury University. Master of Education with Human Services emphasis from Drury University in August 2013.

Is there a group you are targeting for your services? “This position specifically targets youth (ages 5-18) but also depends on the help of adult volunteers and community collaboration,” said Janice.

Where are residents of the area most likely to see you? “I will be trying to increase awareness in many ways, including meeting with various businesses and making appearances at local events. I always welcome visitors to the Texas County Extension office in Houston,” said Janice.

Krista Tate
Tel: 417-256-2391
Email: tatekr@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Howell
Started with Extension: May 2016

Education Background: Bachelors in journalism from Southwest Missouri State University; Masters and MSED in history from Missouri State University; EdD in Instructional Leadership from Lindenwood University.

Relevant Experience: Taught history, English, and journalism for 12 years in the Missouri public school system. Previously worked as a reporter for the Mountain Grove News Journal and Mansfield Mirror covering education and writing feature articles. She was in FFA in high school, showed and judged livestock, and currently has ten head of polled Hereford cattle.

Job Responsibilities: “My main responsibility will be to work with current 4-H programs in my region to ensure success for the clubs and students. My ultimate goal is for our programs to assist students in becoming productive citizens,” said Tate.
**4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

**Willa Williams**
Tel: (417) 546-4431  
E-mail: williamswl@missouri.edu  
Headquarters: Taney County

**Education Background:** Received her Master of Science in Agricultural and Extension Education from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Doctorate of Education from U of A in Little Rock.

**Relevant past experience:** Over 12 years of direct 4-H youth development experience since she worked in the state 4-H offices in Arkansas and Colorado. “I was the youth agricultural awareness and then the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) specialist for Arkansas and the STEM and afterschool specialist for Colorado,” said Williams. Before working for 4-H, she worked in the bio and ag engineering department for University of Arkansas Extension for volunteered for the Arkansas state fair dairy show for 17 years. Before coming to Missouri, Williams assisted with a Safe Routes to School grant in North Little Rock, Arkansas and integrated bicycling and pedestrian education into the physical education curriculum.

**Job Responsibilities:** This position is responsible for planning, implementing and evaluating positive youth and volunteer development programs through 4-H clubs, schools, youth-serving agencies, community collaborations, camps and fairs in Taney, Stone, and Christian counties.

**Velynda Cameron**
Tel: (417) 546-4431  
E-mail: williamswl@missouri.edu  
Headquarters: Taney County

**Stated with Extension:** June 9, 2008.

**Education background:** Bachelors in consumer and family studies with an emphasis in child and family development from Missouri State University; a master’s in education with an emphasis in reading, MSU.

**Relevant past employment:** Was 4-H specialist in Greene County from 2008 to 2010, a 4-H parent volunteer/project leader/group leader for 10 plus years in Hickory County; part-time youth program assistant in Dallas County for one year; Director of MSU – University Child Care Center (Laboratory school) for seven years; Instructor at OTC in early childhood development for 10 years.

**Number of counties you will serve:** Cedar, Hickory and Polk.

**What do you enjoy most about working with youth (or volunteers)?** “I enjoy children of all ages (0 to 99 years). They keep me challenged and on my toes. It makes my day to see the ‘light bulb’ come on when a person learns something new,” said Cameron.
Jennifer Hancock
4-H Educator
Tel: 417-581-3558
Email: hancockjp@missouri.edu

Headquarters: Christian County

Started with Extension: Feb. 2015

Education Background: Born and raised in Nevada, Mo., Jennifer earned an Associate’s Degree in Social Work from Crowder College (2011) and a Bachelor’s in Social Work from Pittsburg State University (2013).

Relevant experience: Hancock is a third generation 4-H member. Her grandfather was a county extension agent in Vernon County and later became a dairy specialist before retiring in 1985. “I have 21 years of 4-H under my belt. I can still remember getting in front of my 4-H club at seven years old giving a demonstration. Through my years as a member of Ellis 4-H and Leadership 4-H I participated in a wide variety of projects,” said Hancock.

Job Responsibilities: Her main duty is to educate the community about 4-H and all it offers. She will attend club meetings, conferences and trainings to provide positive feedback and new ideas to increase our enrollment numbers in 4-H clubs and activities.

Small grains research focuses on wheat variety testing, and alternative crops including canola, sesame and sunflowers. An experimental pasture-based dairy operation focuses on grazing management and innovative seasonal dairy practices. Horticultural research focuses on production alternatives for commercial producers and home gardeners interested in small fruits and vegetables, medicinal herbs, agroforestry projects (walnuts, pecans, hickory, pawpaws, and persimmons) and the growth and use of elderberries.

For more information, contact the Southwest Center at (417) 466-2148.

David Cope, superintendent
14548 Highway H, Mt. Vernon, 65712
Phone: 417-466-2148
Email: Copede@missouri.edu
http://aes.missouri.edu/swcenter/
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

This program helps Missouri citizens and local officials better understand problems, which must be handled on a community basis. These extension specialists provide community leaders with educational programs that enhance the decision-making process through group action.

Specialists with this focus can help with the following:
- assist community groups in problem-solving
- education on county government operations
- development of community resources
- public-work standards for local governments
- implementation of crime-prevention models
- economic-development programs
- community planning
- development of community leadership
- community planning
- rural development issues
- zoning
- assistance to local-government officials in public-service roles
- assistance in recreation and tourism development
- accounting/budgeting for municipalities
- assistance in analyzing economic base

Kathy Macomber
Tel: (417) 682-3579
E-mail: Macomberk@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Lamar, MO
Started: February 2008

Educational background: Bachelor’s in business administration and management from Bemidji (2002); Master’s in administrative studies from MSU, Springfield, Mo. (2005).

Relevant past employment: Treasury analyst in finance department of Leggett & Platt, Inc. in Carthage. Experience in management, budgeting, forecasting, systems analysis, and customer service. Macomber was also a small business development specialist with University of Missouri Extension for six years.

Job responsibilities: I work collaboratively with communities and individuals on the following topics: Strategic Planning and Decision Support for non profits; Finance, Marketing, Management; Community Leadership Development; Disaster preparedness and recovery; Working with diverse populations; Finding funding opportunities for non profits. Serves the following counties: Barton, Cedar, Dade, Jasper, Newton, Vernon.

Amy Patillo
Tel: (417) 581-3558
E-mail: Patilloa@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Christian
Started: November 2011

Educational background: Bachelor’s in Communications Sciences and Disorders; Master’s in Educational Administration and Communications; Ed.D. in Educational Administration.

Relevant past employment: Former 4-H specialist in the Southwest Region. Speech implementer and school administrator for seven years. Speech pathologist and long-term care administrator in Barry and Lawrence Counties.

Job responsibilities: I work collaboratively with communities to foster economic and leadership development, community decision making, community emergency preparedness and inclusive communities.

Specific areas of interest: local food systems, regional food systems, rural development, bee keeping, community diversity and planning, entrepreneurship, youth leadership and grant writing.
Jay Chism
Tel: (417) 865-0707
E-mail: chismj@missouri.edu
Headquarters:
SW Regional office
3003 E. Chestnut Expressway
Springfield, Mo.

Started with Extension: November 2004

Education: Bachelor’s from Southwest Missouri State University, 1984; Master's degree in horticulture at University of Missouri, 2004.; was a graduate research assistant, working with Lewis Jett, state vegetable specialist, on warm-season vegetable production in high tunnels.

Relevant past employment: Three years with Precious Moments Chapel in Carthage as grounds supervisor/facilities manager, overseeing a $1 million landscape operation, including on-site greenhouses; taught greenhouse management courses at Crowder College; assisted in developing a horticulture program at Franklin Technical School in Joplin.

Responsibilities: Helps the media and individuals gain a better understanding of local issues through the Southwest Region News Service, a weekly educational news service for Southwest Missouri.

Programs: “Working with the News Media,” historical and cultural heritage topics and programs related to one-room schools; “News Media and Society: How to Restore the Public Trust.” Additional programs are listed online as part of training available to employers. Find that information on the Greene County Extension website.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

David Burton
Civic Communication Specialist
Tel: (417) 881-8909
E-mail: burtndon@missouri.edu
Headquarters: Greene

Started: Nov. 2001

Education: Bachelor's in journalism and political science from Drury University (1988); Master's in marketing communications from Drury (2001).


Responsibilities: Helps the media and individuals gain a better understanding of local issues through the Southwest Region News Service, a weekly educational news service for Southwest Missouri.

Programs: “Working with the News Media,” historical and cultural heritage topics and programs related to one-room schools; “News Media and Society: How to Restore the Public Trust.” Additional programs are listed online as part of training available to employers. Find that information on the Greene County Extension website.

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REGIONAL OFFICE

Jay Chism
Tel: (417) 865-0707
E-mail: chismj@missouri.edu
Headquarters:
SW Regional office
3003 E. Chestnut Expressway
Springfield, Mo.

Started with Extension: November 2004

Education: Bachelor’s from Southwest Missouri State University, 1984; Master's degree in horticulture at University of Missouri, 2004.; was a graduate research assistant, working with Lewis Jett, state vegetable specialist, on warm-season vegetable production in high tunnels.

Relevant past employment: Three years with Precious Moments Chapel in Carthage as grounds supervisor/facilities manager, overseeing a $1 million landscape operation, including on-site greenhouses; taught greenhouse management courses at Crowder College; assisted in developing a horticulture program at Franklin Technical School in Joplin.

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