



# Greene County “Reaching Out” Report

University of Missouri Extension

Activities for November 2008

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
**M**Extension

## Horticulture Specialist Report

By Patrick Byers

### Community Contact:

- TV and Radio
  - 1 taped spots for KOLR10 “Weekly Gardening Tips with Jill Gilardi”
  - 2 live interviews with KOLR10’s Tom Trtan
- Print media – contributed to several articles, including article on upcoming Show Me Yards and Streams program for “Choose Environmental Excellence” newsletter
- Requests for information (10/20-11/17)
  - Site visits – 1 made for consultation
  - Telephone contacts – 41
  - Email contacts – 25 contacts
  - Office visits – 2 for consultation

### Programs Presented:

- “Alternative Fruit Crops,” presented at the MU Extension Annual Conference Horticulture Category Meeting (9/29)
- “Organic Berry Possibilities,” presented at the Small Farm Today conference, Columbia, MO (11/7)
- “Plant Disease and Diagnostics,” Level 1 Master Gardener training, Bolivar (11/10)
- Beginning Vegetable Growers conference, Seymour, MO (11/11) -- “Vegetable Irrigation,” “Vegetable Disease Management,” and “Vegetable Postharvest Handling.”
- “Home Fruit Production,” Level 1 Master Gardener training, Branson (11/13)
- “Home Fruit Production,” Level 1 Master Gardener training, Ozark (11/13)
- “Organic Production of Elderberry,” Iowa Organics Conference, Ames, IA (11/24)

### Coordinated:

- **Beginning Vegetable Growers meeting, Seymour, Nov. 11**
- Soil test reports - recommendations and distribution for SW region – 25 reports

- Private Pesticide Applicator Certification training – certified 19 trainees.

### Participated in:

- Greene Cnt Extension Council mtg, Oct 27
- MU Extension Annual Conference, Oct 29
- Ozarks Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association meeting, Oct 30
- Cohort 10 Training, Nov 3-4
- Soil and Water Conservation District meeting, Nov 4
- MSU Agriculture Dept Awards, Nov 5
- Small Farm Today conference, Nov 6-8
- Greene County Master Gardeners, Nov 11
- Photos and text for Horticulture section of regional display

### Human interest

- Lowe’s has funded 3 raised bed gardens, which have been constructed at 3 OACAC-Headstart facilities in Greene County; we are developing planting plans for the 2009 gardening season.
- The “Beginning Vegetable Growers” conference on Nov. 11 in Seymour was a success with 74 participants, including 20 members of the Amish and Mennonite community. Extension specialists presented a range of topics, and private applicator certification was also presented.
- The USDA NCR-SARE program offers grants to farmers interested in sustainable agricultural practices. I’m working with 3 farmers on projects: pellet production from giant reed, wolfberry (goji) production, and increasing small fruit production through root inoculation with mycorrhizae. Assistance includes project design, preparation of the proposal, letters of support, and assistance with outreach.

## 4-H Youth Development Specialist Report

### VELYNDA CAMERON:

#### **Community Contact:**

- Print media – Created/wrote November and December *Clover Talk*
- Requests for information/telephone inquiries and drop-ins – Club Leadership, 4-H member project opportunities, trip opportunities/deadlines; and inquiries about membership and beginning a club

#### **Leadership:**

- Leadership/supervision provided to YPA's in Greene and Christian county
- Guidance/information shared with 4-H club in Taney County
- Guidance and support provided to the Taney County Volunteer Personnel Committee after a volunteer application was returned due to a positive background check
- Greene County 4-H Council – participated in meeting and provided leadership 11/20
- Greene County 4-H Foundation – participated in meeting and provided leadership 11/25

**Programs Presented:** Mandated 4-H Volunteer Orientation 11/13

#### **Participated in:**

- Cohort Training for new specialists/ Columbia 11/3-11/4
- Job Shadowed 4-H Specialist – Versailles, MO 11/9-11/10
- Observed budget meeting 11/17
- Regional Faculty Meeting/ Mt. Vernon 11/18
- Regional 4-H Category Meeting/ Springfield 11/20
- Taney County Volunteer Personnel Committee Meeting 11/20
- Greene County Extension Council Meeting 11/24
- Greene County 4-H Foundation Meeting 11/25
- Taney County Volunteer Personnel Committee Oct/Nov

#### **Human interest**

- The Mandated 4-H Volunteer training presented on 11/13 was well attended. There were 21 volunteers (project leaders and club leaders) present – 3 representing Christian county clubs and 18 from Greene County. The active hands-on approach presentation was 3 hours in length and co-presented by 4-H Specialists Velynda Cameron and Bob McNary. An additional training may be offered in December to meet volunteer needs.
- **During the Greene County 4-H Council meeting 11/20 Velynda Cameron advised the group as to Treasurer responsibilities; appropriate handling of funds including membership dues, fund raising monies, making timely deposits, accounts receivables and accounts payables, expectations for the individual club accounts, the annual audit reports, separation of funds (Greene County 4-H Council vs. Greene County Foundation) and accountability to the County Extension Council.**

### BECKY FAY / YPA

- Volunteer Training; State 4-H Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee Meeting; Regional 4-H Dog Clinic; Southwest Regional GIS User Group Workshop; First Annual Pie Auction for the Greene County 4-H Foundation; begin planning the third annual Goat Camp with MSU

## Nutrition Specialist & Family Nutrition Education Program Report

### Terry Egan

**Programs Presented:** 3 Monthly Staff trainings, two days new staff training.

**Participated in:** FNEP new Adult Curriculum training: "Eating Healthy Being Active"; FNEP Coordinators meeting.

### FNEP Staff in Greene County

**Teresa DeFord** and Terry are making site visits with three new staff members.

**Brenda Shannon** facilitated four days of Food Power and is preparing for December Food Power program.

**Sherri Hull** completed a series of lessons at the Salvation Army.

**Marty Wood** continues group classes at the new Pregnancy Care Center site.

**Youth NPA's Tylane Garrett, Dina Good, and Becky Roark** are teaching youth at Republic EC, Bingham, Robberson, York and Fair Grove elementary schools in November.

## County Program Director & Civic Communication Specialist Report

*By David Burton*

### Community contact:

- 5 columns in the Springfield News-Leader
- 4 columns in the Republic Monitor newspaper
- News stories edited/written -- 46
- Spots on KOLR - 3
- Phone calls – 4 special inquiries of me
- Public e-mailed questions responded to regarding media stories or issues – 52
- Office visits – 1
- Media requests for story help -- 3
- Botanical Center calls/contacts – Organized mailing and produced pieces for a 2,500 piece mailing to MU alumni. Due to an error by the printer the piece is going to actually be redone in December at no cost. We have already collected over \$1,000 from this mailing.

### Southwest Region News Service value:

# of stories used in print during October: 312

# of subscribers added: 12

Value of print coverage in October: \$173,923

Cumulative print and TV value for 2008: \$1,744,567.

**Participated in:** Community Relations Group meeting; County Commission monthly meeting; Commission budget hearing; HES category meeting; 4-H category meeting; soils and crops planning meeting; design, set up and supervision of vote center at Remington's (largest voting center in the state of Missouri); 4-H Foundation meeting.

**Working on:** Soils and Crops conference for Greene County, Jan. 20, 2009; county annual report; county budget; orientation for new urban program specialist, publication updates.

**CPD Duties:** CPD related meetings 28; CPD specific related communications - 96; worked on budget and personnel issues, 4-H related issues and questions, 4-H Foundation issues, council meetings and committees meetings and council elections.

## Urban Program Specialist Report

*By Tim Siebert*

First day was Monday, Nov. 17. Is currently working through the various orientation stages of the job and becoming familiar with what various MU Extension specialists do. Preparing for Botanical Center presentation to MU development officers on Monday, Dec. 1 in Columbia.

## Human Development Specialist Report

By Jim Wirth

### Presented these Programs

- Communication with People with Disabilities
- Creativity & the Aging Brain
- Early Life in the Ozarks, Greene
- English Language Learners (ELL), (3)
- Exercising & Enhancing your Memory (2)
- Holiday Stress
- How to Turn Good Play into Great Play
- Keeping Children Healthy & Safe
- Labyrinth & Stress Reduction (3)
- Music & Dance in the Ozarks
- On the Road Through Life: The What, How, and Why (2)
- Poverty & Economic Class in MO 2008 (2)
- Separation & Loss
- Spectrum Leadership, Greene
- Spectrum Temperament
- Successful Principles for Life & Work (2)

### Coordinated these Programs

- Biography of Franklin Roosevelt
- Excerpts from the Landers
- Fair Trade
- Hands-On Activities for Childcare Providers
- Mozambique
- Musical Selections
- Observation & Assessment of Young Children
- Piano Express
- Storytelling

**Special Note:** Spectrum Leadership was a program presented for the Missouri School Age Coalition State Conference

**Programs: 33 programs for 854 attendees**

## Extension Office Activities

### Nancy Chambers

Soil Tests Submitted – 50 soil tests  
Correspondence Tests Proctored

**Monthly Travel**—Entered and printed monthly travel reports for Greene County staff. Imported regional travel into Quickbooks; processed thru QB and printed checks.

**Other Activities:** Assisted Patrick with vegetable workshop—prepared 10 handout packets for 75 participants; prepared PAT packets for 20; picked up & ordered snacks and supplies for workshop. Assisted Jim with 3 childcare classes (prepared certificates, snacks, receipts, and registration list); assisted Brie with soils & crops committee; assisted with election of 2009 Master Gardener board.

**Weekly News Articles** — 8 to 10 per week uploaded to AgEbb ; faxed and/or mailed copies to other parties.

**Weekly Calendars**—Coordinate and print weekly calendars for Greene County office; email calendars to other regional counties

**Newsletters Mailed:** *Master Gardener Newsletter*--250 copies; prepared & printed election ballots to be inserted into newsletter; folded, labeled and sealed for bulk mailing; resent corrected copy to 50 members due to print shop error. *Berry Basket Newsletter* — 315 copies labeled and sealed for bulk mailing

**Master Gardener Activities:** 2009 Master Gardener Class—45 on mailing list for new class in January; Prepared and mailed new class brochure to interested people. Help plan for MG orientation to be held in December. Maintain member rosters; maintain Grapevine mailing list; track annual service hours for volunteers. Attend monthly Master Gardener meetings. Hotline Calls 65+

**Daily**— numerous phone calls and walk-in inquires to be researched, answered, info mailed out and/or referred to appropriate persons. Assist all specialists as needed for mailings, projects, questions, etc.

## Lorri Winters

**Regional Travel:** Reconciled check book in QuickBooks to bank statement, made bank deposits, prepared reports for extension council monthly meeting.

**Ext. Council Bookkeeping:** Prepared/processed bills & printed checks for Council. Processed payroll, monthly reports, made bank deposits & reconciled checkbook in QuickBooks to bank statement.

**Other Activities:** Prepared 4-H Clovertalk for bulk mailing. Contacted several insurance agencies for competitive quotes for Extension Renter's Insurance. Assisted CPD in various mailings and research. Assisted walk-in customers on various subjects, & answered phone calls.

## **Housing and Environmental Design Specialist Report**

*By Jeff Barber*

### **Downtown Visioning collaboration with Drury Center for Community Studies**

- Brookfield Main Street Visioning third visit of four with Drury architecture students and the Project Advisory Committee. This is a complimentary effort with the MU Extension ExCEED efforts.
- Webb City 2030 presentation for the DREAM Initial Assessment meeting in Webb City to kick-off DREAM implementation.
- Initial dialogue with City of Aurora's Economic Development Staff for a spring 2009 Downtown Revitalization Vision project with the Drury CCS.

### **Programs & Media:**

- USDA Homebuyer Education for one (1) individual originated from US Bank. This is through the USDA Rural Development first-time homebuyer program.
- Worked with Emily Baucum of KOLR 10 and Richard Lorenz of Douglas County on a segment about "Strawbale Home Building".
- "Low Cost, No Cost Energy Savers" life-skills training at OACAC for six (6) households in Green County.
- Article comparing Home Energy efficiency investments, with other traditional investments including stocks, bonds, and money markets, for publication in Silver Threads Newsletter; reformatted for SW Region News Service Release.
- 7 phone consultations for topics including pests, alternative energy systems and mold.

### **Training and Conferences:**

- Pervious Concrete Paving Webinar

### **Participated in:**

- Environmental Collaborative meeting
- Ozarks Green Building Coalition meeting
- Homelessness Simulation for sixty persons; facilitator from the Homeless Subcommittee of the Housing Collaborative, part of the Community Partnership of the Ozarks.

*The "Greene County Reaching Out Report" is a communication tool used by MU Extension staff and specialists in Greene County to concisely communicate activities, contacts and events to members of the Greene County Extension Council and the Greene County Commission on a monthly basis. For more information about this report contact the County Program Director at (417) 862-9284.*