December 2013

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

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/ADA INSTITUTIONS
The Show-Me-Select Replacement Heifer Program (SMS)

Show-Me-Select improves herd reproductive efficiencies and farm profitability through increased value for Missouri-raised heifers. In 2013 a total of 6400 heifers in Missouri entered into the program. 1707 heifers were sold through the Show-Me-Select program statewide grossing over $3.37 million in revenue and averaging $1,980 per head. Seven producers from the region enrolled one hundred seventy-nine heifers in the SMS program. Two farms from the South Central Region consigned forty-two heifers in either the Spring or Fall Southwest sales. A growing number of producers have been utilizing the program to raise quality replacement females to retain on the farm to improve the productivity of their herd.

South Ozarks Premier Beef Marketing Program (SOPBM)

SOPBM allows producers to cooperatively market beef calves in 50,000 lb semi-truck loads, and receive performance and carcass data which allows them to make management decisions about their cowherds. Since the program began in 1999, fifty-six individual producers have back-grounded thirty groups and 11,402 head of cattle in the program. In 2013, producers enrolled a total of 237 head of steers and heifers for the spring and fall commingling groups. Producers involved in SOPBM learn advanced marketing and management techniques for their beef operations, and improve profits from their beef enterprise.

Beef and Forage Seminar

This seminar focused on bringing researched based information to producers in the Ozarks to assist producers in beef and forage production. Attendance at the seminar located in West Plains included fifty individuals from five counties. Speakers at the 2013 session were Rob Kallenbach, MU State Forage Specialist and Craig Payne, MU Extension Veterinarian. Topics covered at the seminar included tips and strategies on fertilizer strategies for pasture productivity and restocking the cow herd after drought.

Southern MO Sheep and Goat Conference

Guest speakers for the program were Dr. Jodie Pennington, Region Extension Specialist - Small Ruminants, LUCE, and Mark Kennedy, State Grassland Conservationist, USDA-NRCS. Producers at the conference gained information on the basics of sheep and goat production, why hair sheep, facilities and fencing, profits with sheep and goats, and animal health. The conference also included a panel of local producers sharing their experiences at different levels of production. The event had 35 producers from 7 counties in 2 states. Producers at the conference learned information to make better informed management decisions.

Private Pesticide Applicator Training

This program educates farmers about the safe and proper use of agricultural pesticides. In order to purchase and apply restricted-use pesticides, producers in Missouri must attend a training session or view a training video. Sixty county residents obtained or recertified their license by attending a training session.

AG Lenders Seminar

Ag Lenders Seminar 2013 had twenty-six agricultural lenders and Farm Service Agency personnel from; Dent, Howell, Laclede, Oregon, Ozark, Texas, and Wright Counties in Missouri and 1 from Arkansas. Research-based information is provided to help make sound business decisions for their lending institutions. Lenders must consider many economic forces when making lending decisions and this seminar focuses on key issues affecting those decisions. Many times the person holding the “purse strings” of many operations can have a tremendous influence on the management behavior of the producers.
Grazing School
Forty-eight farmers participated in workshops that were conducted through a partnership with USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The workshops focused on forage utilization and grazing management. Grazing school participants have shown an average stocking rates increase by nearly 20% after implementation of grazing systems and the length of the grazing system increases by 18%. The longer grazing season generated annual savings of approximately $900 per herd.

Regional Hay Schools
Regional extension specialists taught sessions on all aspects of quality hay production. Topics included: Forages for South Central MO Hay/Quality Issues/Hay Testing, Hay Fertility Management, Economics of Hay Production, Hay Day Management/Baleage Management, Hay Storage and Feeding Management, and Livestock Nutrition. Eleven producers from four counties attended the school. All participants said that information from the school will help them to be more profitable on their operation.

Soil Testing
Soil testing assist landowners with understanding the nutrient needs of their soils and helps producers determine the best course of action for fertilizing pasture and crop ground. Soil testing enables producers to determine the best investment for profitability. 532 soil samples were evaluated for Howell County residents in 2013.

Youth Sheep & Goat Fitting and Showmanship Clinic
Several youth and parents came to BUB Ranch to take advantage of this great learning opportunity (and pizza). Dr. Jodi Pennington, Lincoln University Small Ruminant Specialist, discussed marketing, feeding, body condition scoring, acidosis, poisonous plants, foot trimming and hoof care. He also had some great information on vaccination and deworming, facilities and equipment, showmanship techniques.

SC MO Agriculture Newsletter
SC MO Ag News features articles from Extension Agriculture Specialists. The newsletter is published each month and is emailed to individuals that wish to receive it; so far over 100 farmers in the region receive the electronic newsletter. Additionally, printed copies of the newsletter are distributed at local Extension offices and area agribusiness, reaching countless individuals.

SW MO Tested Bull Sale
In 2013 two producers from the area consigned bulls in the SW MO Tested Bull Sale. Consignors work with regional livestock specialists to provide high-quality bulls with top notch genetics in various breeds. Two sales are held each year in Springfield, MO. Buyers realize that 50% of their calf crop is made up of the bull and buying a bull by the numbers greatly improves quality and weight gain of the calves.

South Central Cattlemen’s Association
The association has been going strong the past year and has a membership of 92 producers from Howell, Oregon, Ozark, and Shannon counties. The group had eight meetings last year with topics about current agricultural markets, reproduction, artificial insemination, animal health, and alternative marketing. The purpose of the Association is to advance economic, educational, political and social interests of the Missouri Cattle Industry.
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 Howell County, during 2013, business development program specialists and business counselors with MU Extension, Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers (MO SBTDC), and Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (MO PTAC) reported 330 individual business counseling sessions for business start-up and management counseling, and government assistance. In addition, entrepreneurs and business owners in Howell County reported the following economic impact and activity as a result of the services provided by the MU Extension Business Development Program:

- Sales Increases: $2,922,095.32
- Businesses Started: 15
- Jobs Created: 68
- New investments $3,708,008.39
- Jobs Retained: 96
- Business training attendees and conference participants: 73
- Government Contracts: $72,693.00

In addition, a West Plains manufacturing business, Henson Enterprises received a 2013 Excellence in Business Award from the Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers (MO SBTDC) and Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (MO PTAC) at the University of Missouri Extension’s Business Development Conference in Jefferson City, Mo., on Jan. 30. The firm also received legislative resolutions at the Missouri Capitol from Senator Mike Cunningham, District 33, and Rep. Shawn Rhoads, District 154. The annual awards recognize outstanding achievement in business management, government contracting, job creation and revenue generation by client firms of the two programs. Henson Enterprises was also spotlighted in a statewide media campaign honoring Veterans In Business in November 2013. The video interview was broadcast statewide on television and radio stations as well as the internet and University of Missouri Extension website.

Working with the Ozark Heritage Region economic developers which includes those from Douglas, Howell, Oregon, Ozark, Shannon, Texas, and Wright counties, University of Missouri Extension received grant money from the Small Business Administration to continue working with entrepreneur programs in these counties. A program entitled Youth Biz has been ongoing for the past 7 years. This program teaches entrepreneur skills to high school seniors through funding “hands-on” in-school projects as well as classroom training. These funds were awarded to continue this effort as well as expand the effort to adult entrepreneurs through training programs in all 7 counties.

In 2013, all three Howell County high schools started in-school projects with funds received through the Youth Biz program. Following is a summary of those projects:

**Busy Hands Workshop**, a nonprofit organization of the Mt View-Birth Tree Liberty HS Special Services Education Dept is partnering with the FBLA and Ag class to produce affordable products for sale to the community. Their goal is to establish a self-sufficient, independent workshop in the city of Mt. View. Funds received through Youth Biz in the amount of $1,884 provided the necessary capital to start this in-school business.

**Zizzer Store.** At West Plains High School, $2,000 was provided to create an online as well as an onsite Zizzer merchandise store to sell apparel and other items

**Farm to Plate Retail Meats.** The Willow Springs High School Vo-Ag project was to manages 80 acres, purchase livestock, feed, meat processing/packaging and inspection, advertisement, and utilities needed in order to sell processed retail meat items to the community. $3,500 was funded to this project since it incorporated all aspects of growing, processing, and selling a product, and entailed both agriculture and business.

Youth Biz also assisted the Ozarks Small Business Incubator and its partners by funding a program called Operation Jumpstart and Biz Boot Camp. The second annual Biz Boot Camp for teens was held July 23-25 at the Ozarks Small Business Incubator (OzSBI) in West Plains. The Biz Boot Camp coordinating team consisted of representatives of the University of Missouri Extension, OzSBI, enactus (formerly Students in Free Enterprise), the Small Business & Technology Development Center (SBTDC) at MSU-West Plains, and a student from last year’s Biz Boot Camp serving as an OzSBI intern. The three-day camp was developed to introduce students to the concept of entrepreneurship; teach them the basics of starting and running a business; and encourage creativity and innovative thinking through fun activities, interesting and motivational speakers, and creative visioning.

As part of the Youth Biz program, the Extreme Entrepreneur Tour which is a very dynamic youth oriented national program sponsored by the United States Chamber of Commerce was held at the West Plains Civic Center on March 6, 2013. Over 330 students from 12 area high schools and 3 area colleges participated. All Howell County Schools sent students to this program. The primary goal for these programs is to retain youth in our area after graduation from high school or college.
Established in 1976 as part of the American Revolution Bicentennial to recognize the role of agriculture as the state’s number one industry. Missouri Century Farm program celebrates families’ accomplishments in farming over the years. The program has continued each year with approximately 100 or more farms being recognized each year.

Century Farm Program Guidelines:
1. The same family must have owned the farm for at least 100 consecutive years.

2. The line of ownership from the original settler or buyer may be through children, grandchildren, siblings, and nephews or nieces, including through marriage or adoption.

3. The present farm shall consist of no less than 40 acres of the original land and shall make a financial contribution to the overall farm income.

Applications are available March 1 through May 15 from University of Missouri, Century Farms, Extension Pub., 2800 Maguire Blvd., Columbia, MO 65211 or from the University of Missouri Extension Center in Howell County.

Sponsorship:
MU Extension, MU College of Agriculture, and Farm Bureau jointly sponsor this program. Locally, the Howell County Extension Council sponsors the cost of the application, and provides recognition and publicity of the award.

For more information visit the Missouri Century Farms website:
http://extension.missouri.edu/centuryfarm

---

Missouri Century Farm Program

Howell County Century Farm Families

2013
Chapin Brothers Farm

 Leaders Honor Roll
2013 Recipient Brenda Bell

Brenda Bell shared her love of reading by helping to implement the Born to Read program. This program provides a book to every newborn child with the intent to encourage parents to read to their children. Her love of children and providing them with the opportunity to learn and grow in a healthy environment was evident by the programming she provided throughout her years with extension.
Learning by doing is the 4-H way. Howell County 4-H provides youth with the opportunity to be leaders who have the opportunity to practice leadership, citizenship, responsibility, team work and community service. Trained adult volunteers dedicate their time to lead 4-H clubs as strong role models and dedicated youth partners.

Howell County has four 4-H Clubs:

**Backwoods 4-H Club**, led by Jason and Amanda Osborn
28 Youth Members
24 Volunteers

**Glenwood 4-H Club**, led by Ray and Marietta Marchant
16 Youth Members
12 Volunteers

**Rockin Ranchers**, led by John and Julie Oravec
7 Youth Members
8 Volunteers

**Shooting Sports Project:**
75 Youth Members    7 Volunteers

**Shooting Sports Instructors**: David Lohr - Archery, Mark Bunch - Shotgun, Lance Hayhurst - Shotgun, Sean Barrett - Rifle, Brad McKee - Rifle, Amy Patillo –Pistol and Archery, Amelia LaMair – Archery, R.D. Reid – Pistol

Howell County 4-H serves youth 8-14 years old through traditional 4-H programs, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) focused county activities, school enrichment groups, camps and regional and state events.

STEM programs help close the gap in the demand for trained scientists and engineers. 4-H promotes STEM education through projects such as robotics, animal science, conservation, livestock management, computer technology, gardening and food science. Youth practice wise use of resources, decision making, goal setting and learn through hands-on activities.

### 4-H Connects Youth to College and a Higher Quality of Life
Missouri 4-H members are twice as 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 ages 8-18 to University of Missouri campuses and faculty. Being on campus is a predictor of youth going on to higher education (Hoover, 2006).

These students are more likely to:
- Go to college
- Enjoy increased financial success for themselves and their offspring
- Be better consumers
- Have improved quality of life through more opportunities for leisure and hobbies
- Improve health for themselves and their children (Porter, 2003)
- Vote as adults
- Contribute to their community (Lerner, 2009; Zaff et al, 2003)

### 4-H Garden and Grow
4-H partnered with the Community Garden at Don Warden Park to offer a gardening and community service project to 4-H and the West Plains Boys and Girls Club. A total of 48 youth participated this summer. The majority of those involved were part of the Boys and Girls Club summer day camp program, along with members and volunteers from the Howell County 4-H clubs. Youth participants ranged from Kindergarten through eighth grade. Plenty of youth had the opportunity to get their hands dirty as they were involved in all steps of the growing season from planning, to harvest, with ample watering and weeding along the way. Youth grew a variety of fruits and vegetables in the garden plots including: lettuce, marigolds, snap dragons, green beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, watermelon, basil, tomatoes, hot and sweet peppers, kale, and cabbage. Some of the crops were seeded directly into the garden plots while others were started indoors. Many of our seeds and plants were donated by community members and local businesses.

The young gardeners developed a sense of appreciation for the hard work involved in food production. Becoming more familiar with plants encouraged them to consume more fruits and vegetables. They learned the importance of responsibility and teamwork in the garden. The opportunity to observe the processes behind plant growth and development gave youth a deeper understanding of how important science is in our everyday life. Gardening is an important aspect of living a healthy lifestyle, from the physical activity to the nourishing results. Learning that we all have the ability to raise healthy, clean food instilled pride and confidence in the students. Produce was donated to families in the community and the Samaritan Outreach Center.
4-H Livestock Projects

- 4-H Livestock teaches project skills in the areas of sportsmanship, safety, animal grooming, animal selection, feed ration balances, animal health care and nutrition. 4-H members gain life skills through livestock projects:
  - Self-motivation
  - Responsibility
  - Character
  - Self-discipline
  - Personal safety
  - Decision making
  - Critical thinking
  - Goal setting
  - Wise use of resources
  - Record keeping
  - Concern for others
  - Nurturing relationships
  - Marketable skills

Youth in 4-H take responsibility for selecting a show animal and providing the care, exercise, training and nutrition required to perform in the show ring. The skills 4-Hers develop through the livestock project are clearly reflected in their success in school, their personal growth and work ethic, relationships with others, and empathy for nature. Youth participating in 4-H say they have higher self-confidence and feel more comfortable speaking and showing animals in front of an audience.

4-H alumni credit success in their careers and personal accomplishments to the skills learned growing up in 4-H.

Howell County Participates in Missouri 4-H State Shoot

Eight members of the Howell County 4-H Shooting Sports participated in State competitions on August 24th and September 21st. They worked very hard all summer to prepare. It was amazing to see youth shoot at a competitive level.

**Archery**

NFAA 300 (60 arrows total)

- Brady Brown - 4th Place Score 293 Senior Division Compound
- Mae Pavelka - Score 98 Senior Division Compound
- Bobby Ryan - Score 188, Junior Fingers Division
- Gavin Crawford - Score 283, Junior Compound

3D Compound Archery- Senior Division

- Brady Brown Score 265 10 X’s 5th Place

American 600

- Gavin Crawford Junior Division, Score 566 2nd Place
- Brady Brown Senior Division, Score 556

**Single Target Trap Shotgun-** 50 points possible

- Caleb Wood Score 41 Junior Division
- Tyler Osborn Score 40 Junior Division
- Landon Bunch Score 38 Junior Division
- Jakob Stewart Score 38 Junior Division
- Grant Kelley Score 23 Junior Division

**One Million New Scientists, One Million New Ideas**

America faces a future of intense global competition with a startling shortage of scientists. 4-H in counties and states across the nation joined forces with government, universities, communities, families and partners to address the need for science and technology professionals by actively engaging young people in 4-H hands-on-learning. In 2008 4-H National Headquarters, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension System and National 4-H Council set a bold goal to engage one million scientists and one million new ideas.

4-H set out to initiate new programs in Science and engage one million new scientists by 2013. **4-H Met the Goal!** 4-H worked with corporate sponsors and organizations to offer more STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) opportunities to more young people.

Every year there are more than 5 million 4-H science projects nationally, including Plant and Animal Science, Engineering, Robotics and Technology, Environmental Science and Alternative Energy. The keys to our success are positive adult relationships, teaching skills for life and providing leadership experiences to youth.

Through projects in our community youth engagement, success and accomplishments are proof that 4-H works.

**Howell County Science Projects:**

- Gear-Tech 21 NXT Robotics Camp
- Livestock Project – Goats, Swine, Sheep and Steer
- Beekeeping
- Sheep and Goat Fitting and Showmanship Clinic
University of Missouri Extension (UME) Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP) reached 6,450 low-income participants with nutrition education in Howell county during 2013. FNEP provides information on nutrition, food safety, and physical activity for lifelong health and fitness.

Nutrition education for youth 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 2013, 3,546 youths and 2,904 adults were served through schools, community groups and agencies. The following is a list of the locations where participants were served:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOLS</th>
<th>OTHER AGENCIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fairview Elementary</td>
<td>First Baptist Church Food Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenwood Elementary</td>
<td>Missouri State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richards Elementary</td>
<td>Town and Country (Texas Co.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Plains Elementary</td>
<td>Faith Assembly Christian School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Springs Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Fork School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junction Hill Elementary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For youth who participated in FNEP, results summarized for the state revealed the following positive impacts:

- Three thousand, one hundred ninety-nine (3,199) teachers gave us feedback.
- 50 percent have participated in FNEP for three or more years.
- 99 percent (3,158 teachers) reported one or more changes in students after FNEP.

**Dietary Quality and Physical Activity**

**Food Safety**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Percent of respondents reporting improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Let meat and dairy foods sit out for more than 2 hours</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thaw frozen foods at room temperature</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Food Resource Management**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Percent of respondents reporting improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plan meals ahead of time</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compare prices before bought food</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop with a grocery list</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FNEP Associates Wanda Bowman and Nena Kimball retired in 2013.

Wanda worked with the WIC program and the local food banks. She had worked for extension for 30 years and retired in April.

Nena worked in the area schools and at a food bank. She had worked for extension for 12 years and retired in July.
University of Missouri Extension in Howell County

2013 Excellence in Business Award

Left – Right: Willis Mushrush, Business Development Specialist, Howell County Extension; Floyd Henson, President, Henson Enterprises, Inc.; Shawn Rhoads, State Representative, 154th District, Missouri House of Representatives.

Lindsey Osborn—Swine Project

Amanda Mantel, Steer Project

2013 State Fair Farm Family.
Ray, Marietta, Jon, and Jake Marchant

Equal opportunity is and shall be provided to all participants in Extension programs and activities, and for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without discrimination on the basis of their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran. This policy shall not be interpreted in such a manner as to violate the legal rights of religious organizations or military organizations associated with the armed forces of the United States of America.
Impact on Howell County, Missouri

The County at a Glance
- Population: 40,088
- UM Students: 96
- UM Alumni: 448
- UM Employees: 15
- UM Salary & Retirement Income: $449,156
- UM State Tax Revenue: $13,744
- UM Federal Tax Revenue: $63,091

UM Students from the County in 2013
- 96 students
  - 68 - MU
  - 6 - UMKC
  - 20 - Missouri S&T
  - 2 - UMSL
  - 72 - Undergraduates
  - 24 - Graduates
  - 83 - Full-time students
  - 13 - Part-time students

UM Employees and Retirees Residing in the County in 2013
- 15 people employed by UM
  - 11 - MU
  - 2 - Missouri S&T
  - 2 - UM Health Care
- 7 UM Retirees and Beneficiaries

UM Alumni Residing in the County in 2013
- 448 alumni
  - 314 - MU
  - 32 - UMKC
  - 80 - Missouri S&T
  - 22 - UMSL
  - 216 Selected School Alumni
    - 16 - Medicine
    - 25 - Nursing
    - 12 - Health Professions
    - 7 - Dentistry
    - 2 - Pharmacy
    - 2 - Optometry
    - 7 - Veterinary Medicine
    - 54 - Agriculture
    - 72 - Engineering
    - 19 - Law

UM Alumni Teaching K-12 in the County in 2013
- 22 teachers
- 5% of all county teachers

UM Services Received in the County in 2013
- 533 patients seen at UM Health Care, with $29,680 of uncompensated care.
- 3 patients seen at the UMKC School of Dentistry with an average of $26 per patient in uncompensated care.
- 24,049 contacts with MU Extension through MU Extension events held in district counties.
Dear Citizens,

Thank you - your support has made it possible for University of Missouri Extension to provide educational programs for the citizens of Howell County. University of Missouri Extension provides research-based resources and programs to address high priority issues, and is a direct link to the four campuses of the University of Missouri System. In 2013, more than one million Missourians statewide turned to University of Missouri Extension for help in improving their farms, businesses, families and communities.

For 100 years, the University of Missouri has provided cooperative extension services to Missouri residents. Missouri’s extension effort has its roots in federal acts (The Morrill Act of 1862, The Hatch Act of 1887 and the Smith-Lever Act of 1914) that enabled the university to create and sustain an Extension service.

The success of University of Missouri Extension in Howell County depends upon the dedication and support of members of the County Extension Council. The council assists staff with planning and implementing programs by communicating the interests and concerns of local citizens. Programming efforts require the best efforts of our partnerships in the state to maximize and apply our resources where the greatest impact can be made.

Highlights and outcomes of local program efforts in 2013 are included in this annual report. For more information about University of Missouri Extension, please visit our website at http://extension.missouri.edu/howell/, or contact the Howell County office at 217 Aid Avenue, West Plains, MO 65775; 417-256-2391.

Greg Brown             Julie Hart            Logan Wallace
Chairman              Secretary            County Program Director
Howell County Extension Council                                    Howell County Extension

2013 Howell County Extension Council

The county council is the link between University of Missouri Extension and the people of the state. Established and directed by Missouri state law, the council assists the staff in educational program development and implementation, personnel and fiscal management and membership. County councils are comprised of elected and appointed members who serve two-year terms. The 2013 Howell County council members are:

Elected
- Greg Brown, Chairman
- Josh Cotter, Vice Chairman
- Emily Gibson, Treasurer
- Julie Hart, Secretary
- Jamie Kurtz
- Jared Barr
- Robin Morgan
- Mike Pace
- David Ray
- Larry Rothermich
- Larry Spence
- Dixie Williams

Appointed
- Jeff West
- City of West Plains
- Billy Sexton, Howell County Commission
- Lee Jordan, Howell County Farm Bureau

Funds from the University of Missouri and USDA are used to pay the salary and benefits of Extension specialists and most education assistants, training for Extension specialists, travel to state-sponsored training and committee meetings, regional and statewide administration, a portion of the cost of computer equipment, and maintenance costs, and postage for official business mail of Extension specialists.

County funds are used to provide the space for the Extension office, salaries and benefits for secretaries and some education assistants, travel within the region, long-distance phone calls and local phone service, office furniture and equipment, audio-visual equipment, office and program supplies and printing, a portion of computer costs, insurance for office equipment and furnishings, and cost of council maintenance such as elections, bonds, and audits.