

# Highlights

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## June 2005

**Extension Showcase** – Over 100 guests helped University of Missouri celebrate the new location of the Eastern Jackson County Extension Center on June 22. The Showcase featured exhibits of extension services available to Jackson County residents. University of Missouri Chancellor Brady Deaton and Blue River Community College President Malcolm Wilson addressed the relationship between the community college and university as students transition to further their education. Extension specialists offer university-based research to help Missouri residents solve the everyday problems of life. Through extension, residents can learn how to start a business, eat healthier foods, manage their land, improve their homes and community, continue their education and raise their kids. Extension programs are available to address the health concerns of every age group from nutrition for toddlers to exercise programs for senior adults. Youth also benefit from 4-H membership where they learn leadership, citizenship and life skills.



*MU Chancellor Deaton, Blue River President Malcom Wilson and Cindy Zluticky, County Program Director at Extension Showcase.*

**Value Added Agri-Business Tour** – University of Missouri Extension's Food Circles Networking Project and Agriculture Futures of America invite you to tour a few of the food production businesses of West-Central Missouri 8:30am to 5:00 pm Friday, July 29. This tour will serve as an introduction into the tremendous variety of agricultural businesses which farmers, through joint ventures and/or direct marketing food and agricultural products to consumers. You will have the opportunity to better understand the value that the local food industry brings to our state's communities and economy by engaging in discussions of the successes and challenges that these agri-business owners face. Crystal Weber, Community Development Specialist, Local Food Systems, 876-2790.

**Master Gardener Level I Training Class** - The Master Gardeners of Greater Kansas City are preparing for their annual Level I training class. The class starts in August and runs until mid-December. Classes will be taught by Extension staff, The Department of Conservation and private sector speakers. Lala Kumar, Horticulture Specialist, 252-5051.

**Intergenerational Dance** - The Intergenerational Dance was conducted in Kansas City. Eighty youth, adults, and nursing home residents participated in the event. Nursing home residents and older adults dressed up and enjoyed the dance. Young and old danced together with music and songs. KCTV channel 4 videotaped the event and aired it on 5 o'clock and 10 o'clock news. The dance was a big success with a strong partnership from University of Missouri Extension, Intergenerational Think Tank, RSVP, Youth Volunteer Corp of Greater KC, Department of Minority Health, Tap Dance Group, and Swope Ridge Geriatric Center. Nina Chen, Human Development Specialist, 252-5051.



**Housing and Environmental Design Consumer Requests/Questions** - Over 1100 housing and environmental design consumer questions and requests have been answered through telephone calls, office visits, and follow-up printed information including guide sheets, and other educational resources. Specific topics included indoor air quality concerns with emphasis on mildew and moisture control. Other topics included specific questions on energy management, interior space planning, indoor air quality, housing repair topics, furniture selection, carpet selection and other interior finishes, and more. Marsha Alexander, Housing Design Specialist, 482-5850.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

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| July 21   | Prevention of Communicable Diseases – 6:00 – 8:00<br>University Extension Center, Blue Springs<br>Nina Chen, Human Development Specialist                        |
| August 4  | Building Better Child Care, Hot Topics for Center Director – 6:00 – 8:00<br>University Extension Center, Blue Springs<br>Nina Chen, Human Development Specialist |
| August 20 | Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program, - 9:00 – 4:00<br>University Extension Center, Blue Springs<br>Nina Chen, Human Development Specialist           |

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Questions can be directed to any specialist or Cynthia Zluticky, County Program Director, 252-5051.

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