Dear county commissioners and friends of MU Extension,

The past year has been extremely productive for University of Missouri Extension and Engagement. With the launch of our county engagement specialist model, which is the centerpiece of a long-overdue restructuring, we are better positioned to serve Missourians.

Most county engagement specialists are now in place and the formal training for this new position rolled out this fall. By January 2019, we expect our CESs to be well on their way to success. I see a great future for them and the communities they serve.

At the MU campus, we have been busy putting in place online resources that will benefit Missouri communities. In particular, the All Things Missouri web portal is an exciting tool that can help community leaders search for valuable data. I encourage you to check it out at https://allthingsmissouri.org.

When 2018 began, we set out to meet with every county’s administrative body. This effort provided valuable insight and helped strengthen relationships; and as a result, we will engage in a similar effort in 2019. Meeting stakeholders and deepening county relationships is something we truly enjoy.

As you read your county’s annual MU Extension report, I am confident that you will be pleased with the results accomplished through county-based University of Missouri faculty. Our faculty take pride in their efforts to respond to local extension council input.

At the state level, we have committed to a goal of doubling the economic impact of MU Extension over the next decade. This goal of $2 billion in public value is ambitious — but, by meeting this challenge, we will help a great many Missourians.

Your support of MU Extension and our efforts in your community are greatly appreciated. As always, I welcome your input on how the University of Missouri can better serve your community and its people.

Sincerely,

Marshall Stewart
Extension’s Program Guidance Comes from You

The University of Missouri Extension council and staff would like to thank the Jasper County Commissioners for their support and funding for programs. The council and staff remain committed to improving people’s lives by helping them meet the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century with research-based education and information. County residents decide the direction of extension’s educational programming. Current emphasis areas in Jasper County focus on agriculture, business and workforce, children and teens, family life, home and garden, and nutrition and health.

University of Missouri Extension is a partnership of the University of Missouri campuses, Lincoln University, the people of Missouri through county extension councils, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The mission of MU Extension is to "serve Missouri by extending the unbiased research-based knowledge and problem-solving resources of the University of Missouri and Lincoln University to focus on high-priority needs of people throughout the state." The University of Missouri and Lincoln University are Missouri’s land-grant universities, charged by federal acts of Congress to deliver extension programs.

Current programming efforts statewide focus on agricultural profitability and viability; building family and individual strengths; building human resources; business, community and economic development; enhancing health and nutrition; environmental quality and stewardship; and youth development.

The contents of this report are a summary of the highlights of our educational efforts during the past year. We hope that this report provides a greater understanding about University of Missouri Extension programming efforts in Jasper County.

Submitted by,
University of Missouri Extension Contacts: Extension faculty and staff made 1,266 direct contacts and 32,153 indirect contacts in Jasper County during 2018. Of those, 279 were walk-in consultations and incoming telephone calls that were personally documented by support staff.

Testing Services: One hundred two lawn and garden soil samples, 139 agricultural soil samples, six commercial soil samples, one compost, one special soil test, and five plant disease samples were submitted for testing.

MU Continuing Education Enrollment: This includes programs such as MU Direct, which is credit and non-credit continuing and distance education; MU Extension Fire and Rescue Training Institute; MU Extension Law Enforcement Training Institute; Office of Continuing Medical Education; Osher Lifelong Learning Institute; Missouri Training Institute; Veterinary Medical Extension and Continuing Education; Labor Education; and MU’s Nursing Outreach. There were 349 Jasper County learners in these programs.

Extension Leaders Honor Roll: Each year, extension leaders from across Missouri are recognized for their outstanding support of our programs. Their names are added to the Extension Leaders Honor Roll. Chuck Evans and Clint Lambeth received this award in 2018.

Jasper County Association for Family and Community Education (FCE) provides programs and activities which pertain to the best development of family, home and community. Jasper County hosts three clubs, Jolli Neighbors, Les Femmes and Merry Mixers.

Robert Balek represents extension on the Carthage Tree Board. This monthly horticulture-related meeting builds relationships within the community.

Robert Balek serves as a member of the Statewide Master Gardener Communications Team.

Television interviews: Robert Balek cohosted KSN TV’s “Living Well” show on the first Friday of each month. This show generally allows for two spots on horticulture during the show. In addition, a segment on horticulture is broadcast each third Wednesday of the month. Each segment lasts about four minutes and covers timely, seasonal topics of interest to the four-states area. Approximately 36 segments were broadcast in 2018, with video posted to KSN’s www.forestateshomepage.com and shared by other extension, gardening, and media outlets. Outreach is to the Joplin four-states area (MO, AR, KS, OK).

Mary Ann Pennington, nutrition program associate, is also a frequent guest on KSN TV’s Carol Parker Show where she cooks and discusses healthy seasonal meals. Topics included this year were: fat in fast foods, flavored water, what’s in season, and spices.

Newsletters: Local specialists contributed to a monthly newsletter, 4-H News and Notes, reaching over 200 Jasper County families. The newsletters are also available online at extension.missouri.edu/jasper.

Beef cattle educational information is included in regular news releases, a monthly Beef Newsletter, a weekly radio program on KKOW and occasionally a television news interview.

Extension specialists from across the region provided monthly articles for the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce Newsletter. There are over 2,400 newsletters distributed monthly.
Expanding Our Outreach with Media: Jasper County has a Facebook page with over 300 likes. The page is useful in announcing events, providing information, and displaying photos.

Jasper County 4-H is one of the supported agencies of the Carthage Area United Way.

State Fair Farm Family: Doug and Joy Collard were among the 114 families honored during the Missouri State Fair’s Farm Family Day.

The Collards were selected as the Jasper County Missouri State Fair Farm Family by the Jasper County Extension Council and local Farm Bureau.

Each year, the fair sets aside a day to recognize farm families from across the state who are active in their community, involved in agriculture, and participate in local outreach and extension programs such as 4-H and FFA.

The Collard family (front row left to right) Doug, Wyatt, Morgan and Joy. Also pictured (left to right): Marshall Stewart, Vice Chancellor for MU Extension and Engagement; Blake Hurst, President of Missouri Farm Bureau; Nikki Whitehead, State Fair Commissioner; State Fair Queen 2018 Samantha Nelson; Ted Sheppard, State Fair Commissioner; Christopher Daubert, Dean of MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; and Christine Chin, Director of Missouri Dept. of Agriculture.
Agriculture and Environmental Quality

Making a difference
Through MU Extension’s Agriculture programs, participants keep better farm records, are better prepared to identify crop and livestock problems, and increase farm production. This benefits others by providing increased tax base for public services, reducing the potential for water contamination/pollution and other environmental impacts, and providing a more dependable and affordable food supply.

Horticulture

Horticulture Social Media presence
The Facebook page “Ask A Missouri Master Gardener” originated in Jasper County in October 2018. This page allows anyone to ask gardening questions and get answers from master gardeners and others in the gardening community. In just two months, by year’s end, the page had over 400 followers, adding new followers daily. The design, activation, and administration of this page, along with the “MUExtensionHorticulture” page (also originating in Jasper County in October 2018) bring extension horticulture to a broader audience. Twitter accounts exist for both pages as well.

Webb City Farmers Market First Thursdays
Extension was represented at the Webb City Farmers Market for monthly First Thursdays, which highlighted horticulture topics and programs for passers-by, as well as answering questions. Each month, several hundred visitors had the chance to interact with the displays and talk with extension personnel.

Farmers Market Sampling and Price Data Collection
Data collected at various farmers’ markets across the southwest region was submitted as part of a United States Department of Agriculture grant through the Missouri Department of Agriculture. “Assessing Sampling, Price Reporting as Farmers Market Vendor Marketing Tools” will identify how Missouri can expand a farmers market pricing tool, and determine the opportunities for creating that tool to ensure consumers have access to reasonably-priced, high-quality, local food. Eight farmers’ markets were visited in the region for this project.

FFA Agriculture Education Day—Southwest Research Center, Mount Vernon
The Jasper County horticulture specialist assisted with FFA Ag Education Day for the Nursery and Landscape Contest. Approximately a dozen schools from surrounding counties attended.

Food Safety Management Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Alliance Training
Three training sessions provided local growers with knowledge in preparation for implementation of the new FSMA by the Food and Drug Administration. Training included produce production and handling methods to reduce contamination from pathogenic and chemical sources. Sessions were held in Springfield in January, Webb City Farmers Market in March and in Webster County in December.

Missouri Association of Extension Professionals (MAEP) In-Service Education (ISE) – Morgan, Moniteau, and Camden Counties
Professional development included a tour of a produce auction, vegetable seed company, meat packing plant, AgrAbility project, and a forestry research station.

Tomato School, Cape Girardeau
A two-day workshop on tomato growing was given in the Cape Girardeau area. The training included classroom sessions and tours. There were 40 participants in this event, which was in collaboration with Lincoln University, and funded by a specialty crops grant from the Missouri Department of Agriculture and the Missouri Strike Force grant.
Joplin FFA Ag Day
A horticulture career booth was set up for the Joplin High School FFA Chapter’s annual Agriculture Day. Approximately 1,500 students went through the area, with dozens stopping to talk about horticulture.

Career Days
Students at Webb City Junior High and Neosho Junior High had the experience of learning about careers in horticulture at Career Day. In Neosho, approximately 100 seventh and eighth grade students were present, and in Webb City, approximately 60 junior high students took part.

Office Contact Data
Over 500 direct horticulture contacts occurred at the office in Jasper County in 2018. This data shows contacts from January through August.

Topics of interest to the county included fruits, vegetables, herbs, soil/compost testing, turf, landscapes, tropical (indoor) plants, nuts, floriculture, farmer’s markets, community gardens, general horticulture, household pests, master gardeners, master naturalists, and extension horticulture events. The vast majority of contacts inquired about turf and landscaping.

Although there were inquiries about commercial horticulture and public horticulture (parks, etc.), the vast majority were regarding household private production.

Master Gardener

There were nine volunteers who completed their certification by donating 30 or more hours of volunteer service since completing their training program. In addition, 26 maintained their certification by donating at least 20 hours of volunteer service, plus completing at least six hours of continuing education during 2018.

Awards presented in 2018 were: Rookie of the Year, Arthur Dahms; Lou Ann Herron Community Service Award, Marty Bennett; Betty Holland Volunteer of the Year Award, Brenda Morrison; Coordinator’s Service Award, Ron Wood; 1,000-hour Lifetime Achievement Award, Bev Sturgis; and Master Gardener Emeritus, Dennis Neil and Lee Rodriguez.
**Master Gardener Core Training**

There are 23 new master gardeners in the area, thanks to a coordinated training effort with Jasper County and Christian County. Training occurred in the spring and in the fall to reach out to new audiences.

Other collaborative master gardener core training sessions were held in Greene County, Hickory County, and Laclede County.

The Ozark Gateway Master Gardeners (OGMG) chapter recorded a total of 2,432 hours in 2018. Of those, 503 hours were continuing education, while 1,929 were volunteer service hours on projects such as: Crosslines food pantry garden; various display gardens; and interactions with the public at fairs, farmers’ markets, and other events.

**Successful Annual Master Gardener Plant Sale**

The Ozark Gateway Master Gardeners held their annual plant sale in Carthage in May.

Each year, the members gather plants from their own gardens and/or start plants from seeds to sell at bargain prices to eager gardeners. The proceeds of the sale support community projects sponsored by the organization, such as the Carthage Library Garden, Fresh Ground Seed Library, the Joplin Crosslines Pantry Garden, and the demonstration garden at Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center. In addition, they provide training course scholarships to help lower the fees for new Master Gardener trainees.

**Master Gardener Kids’ Events**

In May, Master Gardeners Eric Osen and Gina Robbins represented the Ozark Gateway Master Gardeners and MU Extension at the Joplin Family Y Healthy Kids Day event. Over 400 youth and their families received goodie bags to help them learn to grow.

January through May, ten events were held at the Webb City Farmers’ Market with an average attendance of 45 youth. Youth received information on various growing topics.
Master Naturalist

The Master Naturalist program is a partnership between the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and University of Missouri Extension. The Master Naturalist’s mission is to promote awareness and citizen stewardship of natural resources through science-based education and community service.

In 2018, the Chert Glades Master Naturalists reported donating over 4,453 hours of volunteer service valued at $107,495. The chapter reported over 716 hours of advanced training with 44 active members.

2018 Training
A total of 20 students completed the Missouri Master Naturalist training classes. One of our trainees came to us from Springfield and is part of the Springfield Plateau Chapter. Four have reported completing requirements for certification as master naturalists.

Stella Eagle Days
This is the signature event of the Chert Glades Chapter in cooperation with the city of Stella and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). This year we presented an eagle “fish pond,” grip strength gauges and wingspan banner for kids to match their size and strength to that of the bald eagle. MDC estimated 2,500 visitors in attendance.

Mayor’s Monarch Pledge
A total of 150 native bare root seedlings were planted in Joplin at Humphrey and Ewert parks and Mercy Park. Monarch/pollinator information tables were presented at the native plant sale held at Shoal Creek Conservation Education Center and at the Prairie Jubilee event at Prairie State Park. Efforts were made to collect locally grown seed from a number of milkweed species. Collected seeds were cleaned and delivered to MDC for propagation. Other efforts included native seed collections for the Missouri Prairie Foundation.

Cardinal Valley Restoration Project
This project was held in Webb City. The Environmental Protection Agency, Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the city of Webb City teamed up to clean and return this reclamation area to a more natural habitat. Twenty blue bird nest boxes and four bat houses were added. Over 200 common and swamp milkweed seedlings were planted by volunteers this fall, along with copper iris and pickerel weed.

Ben’s Branch Stream Team
The Chert Glades chapter’s second stream team was formed to monitor this Webb City steam that passes through the Cardinal Valley project area. The team made preliminary assessments of macroinvertebrates, sediments, and water quality with a goal to continue monitoring as reclamation improvements impact the watershed.
Redings Mill Bridge Glade Restoration Project
This ongoing chert glade habitat restoration project was initiated under a grant from Bayer Corporation’s Feed-A-Bee program. Improvements this year include signs, a kiosk, seed planting, a prescribed burn, invasive weed control, and the addition of a bat house. An additional grant of $5,500 was awarded to this effort through the Missouri Department of Conservation for ongoing improvements. As of the August quarterly report, volunteers had logged 291 service hours. A total of 466 seedling plants and almost 14 pounds of native plant seed was sown on the glade area this year.

Ongoing Community Service Projects:
- Prairie Days and Carver Days at George Washington Carver National Monument, Diamond, Missouri
- Kids Fishing Day at Kellogg Lake Park, Carthage, Missouri
- Prairie Jubilee at Prairie State Park near Mindenmines, Missouri
- Shoal Creek Water Festival, Joplin, Missouri
- Cooking for a Cause, Webb City, Missouri
- Native Plant Sale at Shoal Creek Conservation and Education Center, Joplin, Missouri

Stewardship Projects
Chert Glades naturalists volunteered for a number of work days, special projects, and events this year. Some of these include prairie wildflower and milkweed seed harvest for the Missouri Prairie Foundation and the Missouri Department of Conservation, Shoal Creek clean-up day, prescribed burns in the area, tree and native plant establishment at Mercy Park in Joplin, Cardinal Valley Restoration Area in Webb City, and Redings Mill Bridge area. Friends of Wildcat Glades sponsored a “seed bomb” event using native plant seeds collected by naturalists. Volunteers participated in Earth Day events around the Joplin area including one at Joplin Recycling center. Two stream teams were headed by Chert Glades chapter members, with other members volunteering on at least two additional teams.

Education/Outreach Projects
This year saw media outreach to Joplin and surrounding communities with TV spots highlighting regional nature topics of interest. The Chert Glades Missouri Master Naturalist Facebook page saw 703 “likes” and 699 follows, with frequent articles contributed by members and volunteer promotion via Facebook and other social media outlets. Newspaper articles on the use of native plants in landscaping were published in the Joplin Globe. There were a number of presentations to the public and local civic groups on topics such as bats, water quality, recycling, and pollinators. Demonstrations and education materials were presented at Earth Day events, area stores and markets, and activities held by our chapter’s partners and sponsors. Members participated in the Ghostly Glades night time nature walk. This was a Halloween nature education event for children with 15 volunteers and almost 200 participants in attendance. Some chapter members participated in the first BioBlitz event sponsored by George Washington Carver National Monument.

Citizen Science Projects
Members participated in a number of stream team surveys. There were also bird surveys in areas such as George Washington Carver National Monument and the Cardinal Valley restoration area.

Chapter Partners
Shoal Creek Conservation and Education Center; Friends of Wildcat Glades; Prairie State Park; Neosho National Fish Hatchery; Missouri Prairie Foundation; George Washington Carver National Monument; Ozark Regional Land Trust (ORLT); Ozark Gateway Audubon Chapter; Cities of Joplin, Neosho, Webb City, Carthage, and Stella; MAKO Fly Fishers; Joplin Parks and Recreation Department; Franklin Tech; Association of Missouri Interpreters; Missourians for Monarchs; and Grow Native.
Agronomy

Jasper County Livestock and Forage Conference
The 2018 Jasper County Livestock and Forage Conference was held in conjunction with the Jasper County Soil and Water Conservation District and Jasper County Cattlemens Association. Forty producers attended and heard relevant information to improve their operation. Topics covered in March were: Beef Waste Storage Facilities; Stream Protection; and Does Herbicide Application Pay?

Pesticide Applicator Training
Private Pesticide Applicator Training involves the initial training and recertification of Missouri’s private pesticide applicators (ag producers). The need for training in the application of pesticides is of high importance due to both the legal requirements and a real need for technical knowledge. The University of Missouri private pesticide applicator program reaches into essentially each of Missouri’s one hundred fourteen counties to train farmers on the safe and proper use of agricultural pesticides on their farmlands, including restricted-use pesticides. Fifty-two producers attended the program to obtain or renew their license.

Livestock
Beef cattle producers had their share of struggles in 2018. The weather can take its share of blame with a late spring followed by hot and dry conditions in May, June and July. August saw an unusual amount of rain making it seem more like spring than a summer month.

In true extension fashion, drought management meetings were scheduled for late August, attendance was great and it started to rain. Both local and state specialists teamed up for these meetings. The closest meetings were held at the University of Missouri’s Southwest Research Center, Mt. Vernon and the Springfield Livestock Marketing Center. Between the two, around 250 persons attended with several from Jasper County in attendance.
Show-Me-Select Heifer Program
The emphasis of the Show-Me-Select Heifer Program is on proper selection, health, nutrition and breeding of heifers from weaning to calving. The program has been in existence since 1997.

Herds cooperating from Jasper County were Goodnight Angus, Carthage and Roger Draeger, Webb City. They sold heifers through the May and November sales of bred heifers at Joplin Regional Stockyards. County buyers at the 2018 sales were Todd Dana, David Turner and David Cummings, Sarcoxie; Waylon Miller, Jim Honey and Gary Sooter, Carthage; and Justin Mitchell, Joplin.

All-breed Performance Tested Bull Sales
The Southwest Missouri Beef Cattle Improvement Association has held performance tested bull sales since 1973. Extension livestock specialists have played an important role since the inception of the group. In 2018 Jasper County’s Tom Fix, Carthage bought four bulls at the sale while Tom Elliston, Carl Junction made one purchase. Both were repeat buyers.

Bull Breeding Soundness Clinic
Another bull attraction is the twice-yearly Bull Breeding Soundness Clinics. The clinics are held at the Animal Clinic of Diamond. The clinics in March and October serve as a reminder to cow-calf producers that their valuable bulls need to be checked for breeding soundness at least once a year. The evaluation helps identify bulls that may not get cows and heifers bred in a short breeding season. Well-managed herds should have around 90 percent of their cows calving in a 60-day or less period. Bunched calves are worth more when marketed.

During the clinics, bulls are given booster immunizations and treated for internal and external parasites. Some are tested for trichomoniasis and a few have blood sampled for their genomic enhanced expected progeny difference (EPD) numbers. The latter process is soon to be a requirement for bulls sold in certain sales and for bulls used in the Show-Me-Select Heifer sales.

Forty bulls from nine different owners were tested at the clinic at Diamond in 2018. The cooperating veterinarians were Emily Rowe, Melody Bloss, Will Gentry and Matthew Finney.

Missouri Steer Feedout
This program has also drawn attention from cow-calf producers. In this program, an owner puts a minimum of five steer calves in a retained ownership program. The steers are collected at Joplin Regional Stockyards, evaluated by graders and market personnel, then sent to a feed yard in southwest Iowa. There they are fed five to six months then sold with complete carcass data retrieved from them.

This program helps participants as they critique their breeding and management programs. The results are not always what the owners expected but over several years of participation they can make adjustments and hopefully produce calves that are more likely to receive premiums instead of taking market discounts. Goodnight Angus and Larry Peters, Carthage participated. A PowerPoint presentation that reviews with photos each group of steers along with the comments from the marketing panel may be viewed at: http://extension.missouri.edu/lawrence/documents/FeederOrderBuyerComments2018-19.pdf
**Beef ReproGene Conference**
In March, several extension faculty conducted the Beef ReproGene Conference at Joplin Regional Stockyards. The meeting focused on estrus synchronization, sexed semen and genomic predictions. Tom Brink, chief executive officer for the Red Angus Association of America was a featured speaker.

**Additional beef cattle resources**
Educational opportunities via other methods included:
- Joplin FFA Ag Day
- a monthly Beef Newsletter
- timely news releases
- weekly radio report on KKOW
- periodic TV interviews
- regular articles in the Joplin Yards monthly magazine
- monthly Southwest Missouri Cattlemen’s Association meetings held from September through May
- individual questions and requests are handled via phone, email or farm visits
- The Southwest Missouri Cattlemen’s Association teamed with extension for the fall 2018 tour held in Lawrence County in the Aurora-Marionville area. There were several Jasper County residents in attendance.

**Agricultural Business**

**University of Missouri Tax Schools**
During 2018, University of Missouri Extension ag economics department and regional agri business specialists worked together to coordinate one summer and six fall tax schools. The schools were designed for those who prepare taxes including: enrolled agents, tax preparers, certified public accountants (CPA), individuals and attorneys.

The training included new tax legislation (Tax Cuts and Jobs Act), rulings and cases, individual taxpayer issues, Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules and regulations, business issues, retirement issues, cybersecurity, ethics, and agricultural and drought topics. Much focus was on the new Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which is the most tax changes in over thirty years. The schools were approved for eight hours of continuing education credit by the IRS, Missouri Bar and for Certified Financial Planner (CFP) continuing education. Total continuing education hours reported to IRS for the schools was 3,072 hours.

The 2018 school attendance was a total of four hundred fifty-seven people, including participants from Jasper county. The schools were held in Cape Girardeau, Columbia, St. Joseph and Springfield.

The teaching teams included a CPA and former IRS employee, an IRS certified retired ag economics professor, an attorney and a regional extension ag business specialist.

The trainings received positive evaluations and planning is underway to offer additional trainings in 2019. Local county residents benefit when local tax preparers have the opportunity to gain knowledge they can use to benefit their clients. The statewide tax schools are coordinated by Mary Sobba, agriculture business specialist.
Ag Lender Seminar
Financial lenders from Jasper County attended the 2018 Ag Lender Seminar in Mt. Vernon, Missouri. Agriculture lenders are in contact with more people involved in agriculture than any other single commercial institution. Many times those working with the financial support of many operations can have a tremendous influence on the management behavior of the producers.

Research-based information is needed for lenders to 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.

Topics taught and discussed were: Livestock and Crop Outlooks, Land Prices and Pasture rent, Farm Tax Changes, Economics of Renovating Fescue Pastures and Farm Planning budgets. These programs were presented by Joe Horner, MU ag economist; Jennifer Lutes, county engagement specialist in agriculture and environment; and Jim Spencer Jr., field specialist in agriculture business.

Each participant received a book entitled “Missouri Farm Financial Outlook 2019.” The seminar booklet contains current articles on farm topics such as outlook, management and budgets for planning next year’s farm operations.

Evaluations indicate that the lenders thought the program was very valuable. The participants were asked to rate the program on a scale of one to five with five being very valuable. Eighty-eight percent of the lenders rated the seminar as very valuable. Participants stated, “Budgets and outlook projections are very valuable to our institution and we use this seminar to estimate cash flow for our clients.”
Making a difference
4-H project work helps youth explore interests from animal science to aerospace, resulting in increased interest in science at a rate three times that of non-4-H peers. Interest in science is a predictor for young people to choose science-related careers. This interest in science, along with 4-H members’ 70 percent greater likelihood to go to college than youth participating in other out-of-school programs, is helping grow future scientists. Future scientists are critical to our state, national and global economy; three-quarters of Missouri’s $13.9 billion in products and services exported in 2012 were science, engineering and technology-based industries (Lerner and Lerner, Wave 6; MERIC).

4-H in Jasper County is a community of 223 building life skills, contributing to their community and becoming college and career ready.

Findings from a 2018 evaluation study reveals that Missouri 4-H:

Develops Leadership
Eighty-one percent of the Missouri 4-H’ers surveyed said they find it easy to speak up in a group.
Eighty-nine percent reported feeling comfortable being a leader.
Ninety-five percent said 4-H is a place where they get to help make group decisions.
Ninety-five percent said 4-H is a place where you have a chance to be a leader.
Ninety seven percent said 4-H is a place where you learn about ways to help your community

Builds Initiative
Ninety-two percent of Missouri 4-H’ers surveyed said they are willing to try something they might get wrong.
Ninety-three percent said they keep trying until they reach their goals.
Ninety-seven percent said they try to learn from their mistakes.
Ninety-eight percent said they are willing to work hard on something difficult.
Ninety-nine percent reported that they like to learn new things.

Builds Connections for a Bright Future
Ninety-two percent said they like to learn about people who are different from them, and get along.
Ninety-three percent said they think about others’ feelings before they say something.
Ninety-three percent say they think about how their choices affect others.
Ninety-seven percent said they treat others the way they want to be treated.
Ninety-eight percent said they show respect for other’s ideas.

4-H’ers are twice as likely to go to college compared to their non 4-H peers and they tend to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields (Lerner & Lerner, 2011). In 2018, Missouri 4-H connected 4,818 young people to University of Missouri campuses. Being on campus is a predictor of youth going on to higher education (Dalton & St. John, 2016).

Youth who earn a bachelor’s degree increase annual earnings by $2 million over their lifetimes (U.S. News and World Report, 2011). If 50 percent of the Jasper County youth participating in 4-H events on a college campus receive a bachelor’s degree, 4-H would help young people acquire $66 million more of lifetime earnings.

4-H also prepares youth for the work place. Youth must be prepared to live and work in a world we cannot completely envision – competing for jobs that do not yet exist, using technologies that have not yet been invented to solve problems that have yet to be identified. 4-H is the only youth development program with direct access to technological advances in agriculture, life sciences, engineering, learning technologies and social sciences from the university system. This brings relevant science content and hands-on learning that helps youth thrive (Arnold, Bourdeau, & Nott, 2013).
In Jasper County 4-H members were engaged in over 3,000 science related projects and experiences.

References:


Quotes from Jasper County 4-H members:
- “I gained a lot more respect for my dad and other farmers all over the world.”
- “The fair is one of the highlights of my summer.”
- “I had a lot of fun in poultry this year and look forward to next year.”
- “What I will remember the most is the time spent with my animals and friends, and the life lessons that I’ve learned along the way.”
- “4-H taught me to be a follower, a leader, to learn, and to lead.”
- “I have tried new things and expanded my knowledge in many areas and I look forward to passing this knowledge on to others.”
- “If you want to do something and it doesn’t turn out right, then just try something new.”
- “I learned that if you are willing to take extra steps and do your best work then it will pay off.”

**Jasper County 4-H**

**4-H Club Information**
Jasper County 4-H clubs offer long-term educational experiences in which members learn life skills such as decision-making, public speaking and working with others. Members learn by doing under the guidance of adult volunteers, who teach projects ranging from computer science and arts to animal science and healthy living. Clubs also involve youth in community service, camping and educational trips. In 2018, there were ten 4-H clubs in Jasper County.

**4-H School Programs**
Jasper County 4-H school enrichment programs are short-term educational experiences that supplement learning in the classroom. Most are led by teachers or 4-H volunteers. The most popular 4-H school program in Jasper County is basic electricity, with 175 participants.

**4-H Volunteers**
4-H members are supported by 146 adult and teen volunteers. Volunteers are the core of the 4-H Program. They help to create, support and deliver educational programs and experiences. Missouri 4-H volunteers report contributing on average 100 hours per year to the program. The contribution of Jasper County 4-H volunteers was worth more than $352,400 in 2018. More importantly, these individuals serve as role models and mentors for youth.

**Jasper County Teen Council**
Teen council consists of 4-H members ages 12-18. These teens help with county and fun events, as well as service projects. Approximately 25 county 4-H members meet on a monthly basis.
4-H Council (Parents’ Association)
The Jasper County 4-H Parents’ Association is composed of club leaders, project leaders and parents of 4-H club members from every club in the county. Average attendance is 15. There must be more than half of the clubs represented for the association to transact business.

County Achievement Day and Fashion Revue
Members competed in demonstrations, judging, personal development, fashion revue, public speaking, and Clover Kid sharing. Twenty-six members participated in 56 different project areas. Top members in fashion revue were Kelton Moll, Abigail Dumm and Livia Dumm. Top demonstrators were Livia Dumm and Abigail Dumm.

Weights Work Wonders
This is a community service project created by the Jasper County Mt. Moriah 4-H Club clothing project group to provide inexpensive weighted blankets and vests for children affected by autism. When a child affected by autism becomes agitated or upset, lying under a weighted blanket or wearing a weighted vest helps the child calm down and regain control. Project members made 28 weighted blankets for area agencies. The project group also made ten receiving blankets for Life Choices in Carthage.

Jasper County Youth Fair (JCYF)
The 2018 Jasper County Youth Fair had a total of 1,360 exhibits. Participants earned $17,100.63 in premiums. Entries included 139 beef, 20 dairy, 91 goats, 114 horses, 140 poultry, 70 rabbits, 99 sheep, 57 hogs, 630 4-H non-animal, and 171 FFA non-animal exhibits. There were 285 individual exhibitors this year.

The animals sold at the market sale brought a total of $171,381. There were 66 animals qualified for the sale. Animals sold were two market turkeys, four pens of market broilers, two rabbit meat pens, one beef feeder steer, one dairy feeder steer, 16 market steers, 16 market hogs, 12 market lambs, and 12 market goats. The Jasper County Fair Board keeps 10 percent of the market sale total to pay class premiums to all exhibitors.

Regional 4-H Events

Regional Achievement Day
The following 4-H members received a blue ribbon at Jasper County Achievement Day which qualified them to represent Jasper County at the regional event. Those competing were: Demonstrations: Korbin Fast, Faith Calvin, Kelton Moll, Sadi Short-Brixy, and Avery Pennock; Project judging: arts and crafts—Kelton Moll; beef—Tannah Grigg-Cassatt and Nathaniel Hudson; cake decorating—Faith Calvin; horse—Tannah Grigg-Cassatt; poultry—Nathaniel Hudson; shooting sports—Korbin Fast; and Swine—Lannah Grigg; and Public speaking: Patrick Pennock.

Regional Shooting Sports
The 2018 Southwest Missouri Regional 4-H Shooting Sports Contests were held at the Andy Dalton Range in Bois D’Arc, Missouri and in Polk County in the west central region.

Those competing from Jasper County were Conner Beck, Cheyenne Horton, Brett Pennington, Emily Bowles, Chris Bowles, Tyler Dunnic, Cole Quade, Korbin Fast, Sadie Ramirez, and Carter Allender.
Southwest Regional 4-H Member and Leadership Camps
The camps held at Camp Smokey, Roaring River State Park, Cassville, were attended by 25 club members and two adult leaders from Jasper County. Most of those members are now serving as officers in their respective clubs.

Ozark Empire Fair
Eighty-seven Jasper County 4-H’ers exhibited 102 non-animal projects at the Ozark Empire Fair. This resulted in 143 blue ribbons, 13 red ribbons, two overall grand champion, 17 grand champion and 13 reserve champion winners. In addition, several members exhibited animals at the fair.

Member/Leader Trainings
Making the Best Better and Bright and Bold are annual member/leader training workshops. The events provided workshops on leadership, public speaking and demonstrations, as well as project-related sessions. Certifications for volunteer orientation and Show Me Quality Assurance (SMQA) were conducted as well.

The goals of these trainings were:
- Youth and leaders develop improved knowledge of project materials
- Youth and leaders develop increased skills in making decisions, speaking in public, thinking critically and solving problems
- Youth and leaders develop increased capability to listen and to respect the opinions of other people
- Youth and leaders develop increased skills to work in groups

Members and leaders trained during 2018:
- Seven new adult leaders took the volunteer orientation in order to become certified 4-H leaders
- Thirty-one 4-H members were certified in Jasper County to show their livestock at fairs through the Show Me Quality Assurance (SMQA) program
- Four hundred seven 4-H members and leaders were trained in 178 different project areas.

State and National 4-H Events
State 4-H Fashion Revue
Representatives were selected during county fashion revue events. The State 4-H Fashion Revue is hosted by University of Missouri Extension. Members competing were Abigail Dumm, Livia Dumm and Kelton Moll.
Missouri State Fair
Members receiving blue ribbons at the Ozark Empire Fair may exhibit at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia. Seventy-one Jasper County members exhibited 102 projects at the State Fair. Faith Calvin gave a demonstration at the fair.

State Poultry Day
This is a youth training and skills demonstration event, a fun poultry quiz bowl and a production judging contest, including egg and carcass grading and laying hens placing. Jasper County 4-H members attending were Kaden Bell, Kaleb Bell, Mackenzie Bell, Gauge Reed, Jayden Schenck, and Samantha Schenck. Team members advanced to the national level.

State Hippology Contest
Hippology is an activity that can enhance learning for 4-H members by letting them exhibit their knowledge and understanding of equine science and husbandry in a competitive setting. Attending from Jasper County were Lannah Grigg, Tannah Grigg-Cassatt, Hope Miller, Laura Thorn, Mackenzie Bell, Emily Egger, Garrett Egger, Samantha Schenck, Jerry Watson, and Jessy Watson.

State Horse Judging
The difference between 4-H and many other horse-related opportunities is that the various competitions available focus first on youth development and “winning” a distant second goal. Junior team members were Faith Calvin, Lannah Grigg, Tannah Grigg-Cassatt, Hope Miller, and Laura Thorn. The senior team placed 1st and also competed at nationals. Members were Mackenzie Bell (1st place overall), Emilee Block, Isaiah Chandler (3rd place overall), Keslee Dannels, Emily Egger, Garrett Egger, Evelyn Gilbreath, Samantha Schenck, Jerry Watson, and Jessy Watson.

State Livestock Judging Contest
Team members are determined by scores they receive during the county contest. The State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest is hosted by MU Extension. Junior team members were Ian Block, Faith Calvin, Kallie Cloud, and Tannah Grigg-Cassatt. Senior members were Luke Anibal, Kaitlyn Cloud (5th place individual), Garrett Egger, and Seth Miller.

State 4-H Meats Judging Contest
The meat industry is an important component in Missouri agriculture. The Meat Identification and Judging Contest encourages 4-H members to develop skills and abilities needed to enter and advance in careers in the meat industry. These activities are designed to encourage the development of broader analytical skills, critical thinking, the use and understanding of appropriate meat terminology, and the evaluation of meat animal products to optimize economic returns not only to them as producers, but as consumers as well. Jasper County 4-H members who competed in the contest, hosted by MU Extension, included junior team—Kelton Moll, Caleb Martin, Shem Miller, and Austin Pope. The senior team placed 4th in competition. Senior team members were Luke Anibal, Sam Anibal, Korbin Fast, Brett Rockers, and Grady Weaver.
Legislative Academy
Legislative Academy is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for 4-H teens to be ambassadors for Missouri 4-H at the heart of Missouri state government. Youth delegates from across the state are selected by 4-H to meet with executive, legislative, and judicial state government leaders. Lydia Rockers, a nine year 4-H member, was selected in 2018 to represent Missouri 4-H in Jefferson City.

Missouri Equine Tour
Forty-nine enthusiastic Missouri 4-H teens embarked upon the eighth annual 4-H Equine Career and Horse Industry Tour in late May 2018, traveling to destinations in Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming and Colorado. The tour explored ranching and rodeo in Nebraska. Participants gained insight into equine and animal science programs. Equine welfare issues were a focus at a wild horse facility and members visited an equine rescue facility. Jasper County members on the 2018 tour were Sami Bayless, Mackenzie Bell, Isaiah Chandler, Keslee Dannels, Evelyn Gilbreath, and Kaylee Talken.

State Shooting Sports
Members enrolled in the Shooting Sports project may be selected to represent Jasper County by accruing points in local events. Members competing were:
- senior division—Carter Allender, white ribbon .22 rifle standard individual and 2nd place team; Chris Bowles, 3rd place individual archery 300 freestyle and 1st place team; 5th place hunting skills; 1st place individual archery recurve 3D and 1st place team; 1st place individual archery 600 freestyle and 1st place team; Emily Bowles, 2nd place individual archery 300 freestyle and 1st place team; 2nd place individual archery recurve 3D and 1st place team; 3rd place archery 600 compound and 1st place team; Tyler Dunnic, red ribbon trap competition; Korbin Fast, blue ribbon .22 rifle standard and 2nd place team; white ribbon trap; Brett Pennington, 4th place individual archery 300 freestyle and 1st place team; 3rd place individual archery recurve 3D and 1st place team; 5th place archery 600 compound bow and 1st place team; Cole Quade, blue ribbon trap; and Sadie Ramirez, 2nd place individual .22 rifle and 2nd place team and 2nd place muzzle loader.

Missouri Extension 4-H Hall of Fame
The Missouri 4-H Foundation recognizes individuals who have created a legacy of service to 4-H by honoring them with membership in the Missouri 4-H Hall of Fame. The annual event is sponsored by FCS Financial and the Missouri State Fair in partnership with the Missouri 4-H Foundation.

Inductees for 2018 were Dale and Donna Wickstrom. They have devoted most of their lives in service to Jasper County, especially with youth. They have served tirelessly for several years as very large supporters of the Jasper County Youth Fair as well as many of the other fairs in local communities in the county. They have also supported and helped several individual 4-H members with feed and tack for their projects. They are always willing to lend a helping hand wherever and whenever they can. They have always been there to help and encourage members to do their best. These volunteers have played a vital role in helping our youth develop essential life skills that will empower them to become strong leaders in the 21st-century workforce. We are proud to honor their legacy of service to Missouri 4-H.
State 4-H Congress
This event was held in Columbia on the MU campus. Members participated in a variety of leadership, project and career workshops. Attending from Jasper County were Luke Anibal, Isaiah Chandler (current 4-H State Council member), Korbin Fast, Luke Lage, Hannah Miller, Seth Miller, Sadie Ramirez, Brett Rockers, Lydia Rockers, and Marissa Thorn.

State 4-H Teen Council
Council members represent over 20,000 youth who participate in Missouri 4-H clubs. They play a major role in statewide 4-H event planning, advise on policy issues and help coordinate two major youth leadership conferences each year. State council members must be elected as representatives from their regions. Lydia Rockers served the southwest region on the state council.

State 4-H Foundation Scholarships
These scholarships are for high school seniors and current college students who are or have been 4-H members. There are over twenty $500 to $2,500 scholarships administered by the Missouri 4-H Foundation. Emphasis is on leadership and community service. One of these $1,000 scholarships is funded by Jasper County 4-H and was awarded to Isaiah Chandler.

National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference—Avian Bowl
The purpose of the contest is to encourage youth to expand their knowledge of avian facts, and become proficient in poultry management, and related subjects and to serve as an award activity and trip for youth who have achieved superior levels of performance in state competition and thus stimulate their learning processes, interest, and enthusiasm. Mackenzie Bell and Kaleb Bell competed for Jasper County.

National 4-H Congress
National 4-H Congress is a premier 4-H event held in late November in Atlanta, Georgia. Participant experiences include leadership, service and cultural opportunities. Jasper County’s Lydia Rockers was chosen to attend.

Western National Roundup Livestock Judging
The Western National Roundup held in Denver, Colorado, gives opportunity to establish new friendships with other 4-H and FFA members and leaders; participate in social and educational programs by being a participant, not a spectator; experience and develop greater personal growth; continue to develop leadership and citizenship skills; reach for new career ideas and cultural development in areas of business, agriculture, science, industry, education and the arts; and share personal experiences with others through things that have been meaningful to their growth and development. Team members were Savanna Fisher, Matthew Meyer, Jared Parrigon and Sadie Ramirez.

National Horse Judging
National Horse Judging provides a place for youth to compete nationally while encouraging teamwork and self-confidence, as well as focusing on the 4-H Mission Mandates: science, engineering, technology, mathematics, healthy living and citizenship. Team members were Isaiah Chandler, Jacob Blank, Emilee Block, Samantha Schenck, and Mackenzie Bell.
Human Development

Focus on Kids (FOK)
Focus on Kids is a 2 ½-hour face-to-face program provided by University of Missouri Extension in collaboration with the circuit court system.

The purpose of Focus on Kids is to help parents learn how to nurture and support their children during and after separation and divorce. Specific goals include the following:

- Avoid putting children in the middle of parental disputes by encouraging divorcing parents to discuss differences and problem areas in a respectful manner or when children are not present.
- Encourage both parents to remain actively involved in the life of their child following divorce/separation (if it is healthy for the child).
- Provide research-informed suggestions of helpful parental behaviors related to transitions between households and discussing financial issues.
- Provide information on how divorce often affects children’s socio-emotional adjustment, and potential developmental differences based on children’s age and understanding.
- Provide research-based information and community resources related to human service agencies and other organizations that may be helpful to children and parents as they attempt to adjust to the process of divorce.

Each parent receives a take-home packet of information, including publications, book lists, websites, and a directory of parent resources. Twenty-six parents attended FOK in Jasper County during 2018.

Sample of parents’ comments about the Focus on Kids program include:

- “Wish I would’ve known this information when I first separated. I think I would’ve been able to help my son adjust easier.”
- “I liked the program. It helped me find ways to say things to my ex-spouse without causing a fight.”
- “This is a good program and it helped me realize how important the divorce is to the child, to be very patient with my child and to help him understand what’s going on.”
Nutrition

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy (SSSH)—Level 1 is an eight-week strength-training program for middle-aged and older adults. The program is designed to increase aging adults’ access to a safe, structured, and effective strength training program. At each session a prescribed set of eight upper and lower-body strengthening exercises are done along with a warm-up and cool-down. Participants are made to feel comfortable regardless of their current fitness level so they can safely participate and gradually build the strength beneficial to their health.

In Jasper County, there were 289 direct contacts that participated in the Stay Strong, Stay Healthy program. University of Missouri Extension collaborated with Freeman Health Systems and Freeman Advantage in Joplin, as well as Christian Church of Carl Junction to offer the program to the citizens of Jasper County.

Of first time participants:
• 32 of 32 improved or stayed the same in the chair stand test, which assesses lower-body strength and endurance needed for activities such as climbing stairs; walking, and getting up from a seated position
• 30 of 32 improved or stayed the same in the chair sit-and-reach test, which assesses lower-body flexibility important in joint pain control and needed for activities such as putting on socks and shoes, dressing and using stairs
• 26 of 32 improved or stayed the same in the back scratch test which assesses upper-body and shoulder flexibility needed for activities such as combing hair, dressing and reaching
• 24 of 32 improved or stayed the same in the 8-foot up-&-go test which assesses the agility and balance needed for activities such as standing quickly from a seated position and walking
• 31 of 32 improved or stayed the same in the balance assessments which indicates reduced risk of falling and continued independent living

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy (SSSH)—Level 2 is the follow-up program to SSSH—Level 1 and is an eight-week program. The goal of SSSH-2 is to challenge middle-aged and older adults with new and different exercises which will help improve activities of daily living and overall health. This program features exercises that encourage participants to move to and from the floor and the use of resistance from body weight, hand weights, and ankle weights.

In Jasper County, there were 102 direct contacts in the Stay Strong, Stay Healthy—Level 2 program. University of Missouri Extension collaborated with Freeman Advantage and Freeman Health Systems to offer the program to the citizens of Jasper and Newton counties.

Of first time participants:
• 4 of 4 improved or stayed the same in the chair stand test, which assesses lower-body strength and endurance needed for activities such as climbing stairs; walking, and getting up from a seated position
• 3 of 4 improved or stayed the same in the balance assessments which indicates reduced risk of falling and continued independent living

After participating in Stay Strong, Stay Healthy:
• 3 of 4 first time participants felt their overall health was better
• 3 of 4 first time participants reported feeling physically stronger
• 3 of 3 first time participants reported “very confident” or “confident” that they would be able to continue the strength training exercises on their own

Through the MU Extension’s Stay Strong, Stay Healthy program, participants increase their physical activity and may improve strength, balance and flexibility, resulting in reduced risk for falls, better overall health and greater independence. These health benefits can prolong the need for long-term care, which costs on average $51,000 per year in Missouri¹. The money saved benefits the community by keeping more discretionary income in circulation locally. It also keeps people active and independent, contributing to society longer.

¹ https://longtermcare.acl.gov/costs-how-to-pay/costs-of-care.html
Cooking Matters
As part of the No Kid Hungry campaign to end childhood hunger in America, Share Our Strength's Cooking Matters teaches participants to shop smarter, use nutrition information to make healthier choices and cook delicious, affordable meals.

The participants in the six-week Cooking Matters courses are adults, teens and children who want to make healthy meals on a budget. They learn to shop smarter, use nutrition information to make healthier choices, and cook delicious, affordable meals.

During program year 2018, Cooking Matters courses were delivered to 36 direct youth contacts in Jasper County.

After attending the course, participants reported improved knowledge, skills, and understanding of maintaining a healthier dietary intake, using skills and recipes learned to improve their families’ diet, and using skills and knowledge to shop healthier and reduce food costs.

Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP)
As a part of a partnership with Missouri Arthritis and Osteoporosis Program (MAOP), the DSMP teaches participants how to manage their type 2 diabetes through increasing their confidence in using skills learned in the educational programming.

Individuals and families affected by diabetes regularly struggle with physical and psychological effects. Topics covered in the six sessions of the DSMP include exercise; symptom management; nutrition; getting proper rest; community resources; using medications appropriately; dealing with fear, anger, and depression; communicating with family, friends, and health professionals; problem-solving; decision-making; and delaying complications.

During program year 2018, there were 12 direct contacts in Jasper County.

- 7 of 7 participants strongly agreed that participation in this course made them more confident in their ability to take care of their diabetes
- 5 of 7 participants agreed that participation in this course improved their ability to deal with problems caused by their diabetes
- 5 of 7 participants agreed that participation in this course improved the physical symptoms caused by their diabetes
- 6 of 7 participants agreed that participation in this course led them to change something (action or knowledge) based on what was learned or experienced

Family Nutrition Program (FNP)
The Family Nutrition Program brought $9,449,699.00 in federal funds to the state of Missouri. These funds were used to provide nutrition education to 735,541 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and eligible citizens of Missouri. There were 2,932,390 educational contacts. Indirect educational contacts totaled 2,242,249 in 2018. Indirect contacts are reached through newsletters, health fairs, food pantries and the Show-Me Nutrition help line. Of these participants, 11,805 reside in Jasper County.

Participants in FNP become more aware of nutrition, make healthier meal and snack choices, eat breakfast more often, are more willing to try new foods, increase their physical activity and in general make healthier food choices. Those who practice healthy eating and activity behaviors are more likely to enjoy a high quality of life as an adult and into old age. A healthy labor force is critical to attracting and keeping jobs in Missouri. In addition, this important programming effort serves to reduce healthcare costs over the participant’s lifetime, saving taxpayers money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.
During 2018, 1,328 youth and 10,477 adults were served through schools, community groups and agencies. The following is a list of the locations where participants were served in Jasper County:

- **Show-Me Nutrition Education Program**: a six-lesson program for pre-school through eighth grade. Topics included food safety, My Plate, physical activity, and food tasting. These classes were offered at North Joplin Head Start and Pumpkin Patch Daycare Center in Joplin; Sarcoxie Head Start; Webb City Head Start; Carverville Elementary; Carl Junction Primary 2-3 and Head Start in Carl Junction; and in Carthage at Fairview Elementary, Mark Twain Elementary, Steadley Elementary, Pleasant Valley Elementary, Columbian Elementary, Carthage Middle School, and Head Start.

- **Eating Smart, Being Active**: an eight-lesson nutrition curriculum for adults. This program was offered at Lovin Grace, Independent Living Center, Arc of the Ozarks, Joplin Housing Authority, Ford Lofts, Crosslines Community Clinic, Ronald McDonald House, and Lafayette House in Joplin; and Parents as Teachers in Sarcoxie.

- **Show-Me Nutrition Education displays** incorporate nutrition messages around a variety of relevant topics (such as Supersizing of America, Healthy Eating on the Run, Childhood Obesity, Nutrition and Learning, Facts on Fats, etc.). There are 20 distinct displays that are used along with a corresponding handout to educate adult audiences. These displays were utilized with audiences at City Health Department in Joplin and Salvation Army in Carthage.

- **Getting Healthy through Gardening**: provides nutrition and gardening activities to increase consumption of fruits and vegetables. This workshop was held at Gateway in Joplin.

- **Recipe cards with healthy living tips** are mailed monthly to over 1,200 clients of Soul’s Harbor, Forest Park Baptist Church, Ozark Center Turnaround Ranch, Community Support Services, Salvation Army, St. Peter’s Outreach, Stone Village Children’s Center, We Care of the 4 States, Independent Living Center, Lafayette House, Crosslines, and Boys and Girls Club in Joplin; Salvation Army, Carthage; and Freedom Christian Fellowship, Sarcoxie.

In addition to the numbers, nutrition program associates, Mary Ann Pennington and Nicole Sparkman shared these success stories demonstrating local impact:

“After attending a series of classes, I was told by one of the attendees: ‘I was so glad we made the fish tacos in class. Fish is one of the foods that I have a hard time getting my kids to eat. I made the fish tacos for them and my little girl couldn’t get enough of them! I was so excited to get a fish recipe that my children and I would eat. Loved the Eating Smart Being Active Class!’”

“I was recently teaching programming at several Head Starts in Jasper County. At Webb City, the teacher told me that the children had really been paying attention to drying their hands after they washed them. During the first lesson of the Pre-K curriculum, we read a book about germs and use the black light to show them the “germ monster” before and after they wash their hands. I put a lot of emphasis on them making sure to dry their hands completely after watching several kids come back to me with still wet hands. The teachers now say that they are drying their hands much better.”

Mary Ann hosted a group of clients at the Gene Taylor Community Building for a six-week Eating Smart, Being Active series of classes that focused on hands-on cooking.

In summary, it has been a successful year in Jasper County for FNP. We look forward to more programming opportunities and continued progress in helping to improve the lives of Missouri families in 2019.
Making a difference

When you support MU Extension’s Business Development Program, enterprising Missourians receive information and training to successfully start, run and expand businesses. This increased business activity creates jobs, increases consumer demand, promotes economic development and generates tax revenue for the public’s welfare.

Missouri’s small businesses are an increasingly diverse group that continue to boost the state’s productivity. There are 523,459 small businesses in Missouri. This is the equivalent of 99.4 percent of all Missouri businesses. Missouri small businesses employ more than 47 percent of the private workforce. In assisting the owners and managers of these businesses, MU Extension contributes to a county’s economic development through growth in jobs, sales, innovation, technology development and commercialization, and community growth.

In Jasper County during fiscal year 2018, the MU Extension Business Development Program (BDP) served 1,239 people and their companies with business start-up and management counseling, training, and other assistance. In addition, entrepreneurs and business owners in Jasper County reported the following economic impact and activity resulting from services provided by the MU Extension BDP:

- $7,041,612 sales increase
- 96 jobs created
- 134 jobs retained
- 13 new business starts
- 195 clients/companies receiving business counseling
- 779 business training attendees and conference participants
- $178,766 Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC) awards (six)
- $321,000 acquired assets

MU Extension BDP serves people and their businesses statewide. The fiscal year 2018 total impact for all businesses assisted by the BDP was:

- 284 new businesses
- 2,778 new jobs
- 5,397 jobs retained
- $453,895,246.94 sales increases
- $295,988,671.36 PTAC awards
- 3,938 clients/companies receiving business counseling
- 9,609 business training attendees and conference participants
- 14 business turned around or failures prevented
- $13,322,538 acquired assets

Business development faculty and staff who contribute to these business successes have regional and statewide assignments. BDP serves all counties across the state.
Jasper County

UM System Footprint in the county in 2018

**Fall county students**
- 182 students
  - 137 Undergraduates
  - 45 Graduate and professional students
  - 146 Full-time students
  - 36 Part-time students
  - 39 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2018)

**County employees and retirees**
- 31 people employed by UM
  - 25 Campuses
  - 6 UM Health Care
- 24 UM retirees and beneficiaries
- UM salary and retirement income: $901,087
- UM state tax revenue: $24,759
- UM federal tax revenue: $105,747

**County alumni**
- **Selected school alumni**
  - 39 Medicine
  - 76 Nursing
  - 26 Health Professions
  - 48 Dentistry
  - 33 Pharmacy
  - 9 Optometry
  - 21 Veterinary Medicine
  - 91 Agriculture
  - 209 Engineering
  - 75 Law
- **Alumni teaching K-12**
  - 32 teachers
  - 2% of all district teachers
  - 7 principals and administrators
  - 9% of all district principals and administrators

**County breakdown**
- **MU**
  - 87 students
  - 693 alumni
  - 21 employees
- **UMKC**
  - 46 students
  - 260 alumni
  - 1 employee
- **Missouri S&T**
  - 45 students
  - 198 alumni
  - 2 employees
- **UMSL**
  - 4 students
  - 39 alumni
  - 1 employee

**County services provided**
- **Health care**
  - 204 patients seen at UM Health Care, with $27,238 of uncompensated care
  - 2 patients seen at UMSL Center for Eye Care with a statewide average of $73.83 per patient in uncompensated care
  - 16 patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of $53.20 per patient in uncompensated care
- **Extension**
  - 22,199 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of district counties, including:
    - 270 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
    - 20,673 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
    - 1,256 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy

**County properties and offices**
- MU Extension in Jasper County

For more information, go to: umurl.us/impactdata
Jasper County Extension Council

Chairman: Peter Carter  
Vice Chairman: Karen Latimer  
Secretary: Gail Kreutzer  
Treasurer: Tom Flanigan

Elected Members:
Debbie Carter  
Peter Carter  
Rosann Chapman  
Bill Chapman  
Doug Collard  
Andrea Cullers  
Sherri Garvin  
Kyle Garvin  
Patricia Gordon  
Jim Graham  
Barbara Hunter  
Teresa Ingle  
Gail Kreutzer  
Karen Latimer  
Mary Jo Little  
Bub Miller  
Sarah Miller  
Steve Wardlow  
Rachel Wilson  
Kyle Wilson

Appointed Members:
Anthony Monteleone  
Andy Cloud  
Vacant  
Tom Flanigan  
Carl Burton  
City of Joplin  
City of Carthage  
City of Webb City  
County Commission  
Farm Bureau

Unique partnership
Jasper County’s University of Missouri Extension Council is a full partner with Missouri’s land-grant universities to deliver high-quality education and research-based information that helps people solve real-world problems and take advantage of opportunities.

Council members:
- work with extension specialists to provide the county with quality educational programs,
- manage finances of local extension operations,
- provide personnel to carry out extension activities, and
- elect and organize the local extension council.

2018 Jasper County Commission
John Bartosh  
Presiding Commissioner  
Tom Flanigan  
Associate Commissioner (East)  
Darieus Adams  
Associate Commissioner (West)
University of Missouri Extension programs in Jasper County are funded by Jasper County, state and federal appropriations. Local funding for support of the Jasper County Extension Center is provided by the Jasper County Commission. The commission provides office space, funds for office expenses, clerical salaries, and travel expenses of extension specialists who conduct educational programs in Jasper County.

University of Missouri’s Contribution to County Extension Program

The University of Missouri provides salaries and benefits for three professional and two para-professional staff members headquartered in Jasper County. The university provides in-service training expenses, including travel and lodging for faculty and staff, communications, and funds for computer equipment costs and maintenance.

Statewide Extension
Budgeted Sources of Funding

 MU Extension
budgeted sources of funding
Total $76,123,679

Beginning Balance $76,685.83
Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0100 - Student Fees</td>
<td>13,101.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0210 - County Appropriations</td>
<td>60,339.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0220 - 4-H United Way Appropriation</td>
<td>6,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0300 - Investment Income</td>
<td>96.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0400 - Gift/Grants/Contracts</td>
<td>15,024.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0900 - Resales/Educational Services</td>
<td>6,435.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1300 - Miscellaneous Income*</td>
<td>21,738.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500 - University Program funds</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$123,084.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2700 - Personnel Services - Wages</td>
<td>$34,125.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2800 - Payroll Expenses</td>
<td>11,250.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3100 - Travel</td>
<td>7,310.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3600 - Postage</td>
<td>2,655.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4300 - Rent/Lease Space</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5100 - Supplies/Services</td>
<td>19,288.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5600 - Professional Services</td>
<td>158.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2900 –Utilities</td>
<td>820.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6400 - Other Contract Services</td>
<td>285.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6800 - Insurance</td>
<td>1,550.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7000 - Miscellaneous Expenses*</td>
<td>22,122.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7010 - Extension Council Election</td>
<td>193.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7100 - Test Services Expenses</td>
<td>3,449.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7200 - Publications for Resale</td>
<td>1,136.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7300 - Repairs/Maintenance</td>
<td>1,111.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7400 - 4-H Enrollment/Event Fees</td>
<td>6,236.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7700 – Furniture/Equipment</td>
<td>1,204.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7999 - Fee Generation Distribution</td>
<td>1,765.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expense</td>
<td>$114,690.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revenue less Expense $85,079.88

*Miscellaneous income and expenses reflect Master Gardener, Master Naturalist and 4-H activities, account transfers, copies, publishing and printing.
Faculty and Staff

Headquartered in Jasper County

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Bob McNary  
Co-County Program Director  
4-H Youth Specialist

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Headquartered in Jasper County

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Other Regional Faculty Serving Jasper County

Jay Chism  
Regional Director

Jeff Barber  
Field Specialist in Housing Education

Reagan Bluell  
Field Specialist in Dairy

David Burton  
County Engagement Specialist in Community Economic Development

Eldon Cole  
Field Specialist in Livestock

Terri Fossett  
Regional Coordinator Family Nutrition Program

Elizabeth Picking  
Field Specialist in Livestock

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

Robert Balek  
Co-County Program Director  
Field Specialist in Horticulture

Garren Johanson  
Youth Program Associate

Virginia Bryan  
Administrative Assistant

Mary Ann Pennington  
Nutrition Program Associate

Dixie Rockers  
Administrative Assistant

Nicole Sparkman  
Nutrition Program Associate

In addition to our regional extension faculty, local individuals and businesses can receive assistance through the Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC) located on the Missouri Southern State University campus. The director is Lisa Robinson.