

2006

ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends



A unique partnership exists between University of Missouri Extension and local government. In Lafayette County, we're proud of the many ways our partnerships with local government, organizations and coalitions have worked to help people help themselves.

This past year University of Missouri Extension had a variety of educational contacts with the citizens of Lafayette County. Citizens benefited from one-on-one assistance, seminars, services and research-based publications. This annual report highlights just a few of the many programs that made a difference in 2006.

While extension centers draw from expertise on the four campuses, our extension faculty members are ingrained in local communities. Through input from University of Missouri Extension Council of Lafayette County, extension faculty respond to local priorities with programs to enhance economic viability; build strong individuals, families and communities; and create and sustain healthy environments.

We look forward to a continued presence in Lafayette County, providing experts to link citizens with local, state and federal resources and offering research-based knowledge to help people solve the everyday problems of family and business.

Dennis Knipmeyer
Council Chair
Lafayette County

Jan Erdman
Secretary

Lynda Johnson
County Program Director
Lafayette County Extension

Lafayette County

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
The logo for the University of Missouri Extension, featuring a stylized 'M' in a square followed by the word 'Extension' in a serif font.

Agriculture & Natural Resources

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griculture specialists help you improve profitability in crop and livestock production and protect the environment.



- ▶ **Women as Landowners & Landowner Partners.** Over 125 women gained knowledge and skills necessary to make management decisions regarding their land or assets. High rated sessions included “10 Tips for Smart Money Managers”; and “Trespassing and Breaking and Entering Laws”. This program is co-hosted annually with the local Farm Service Agencies.
- ▶ **Forage and Livestock Conference.** 65 producers attended the annual forage and livestock conference in Concordia, where they learned about utilizing warm season grasses to supplement livestock forage needs.
- ▶ **Ag Lenders Seminar.** Nine lenders from area counties attended a seminar on “Financing and Management in Agriculture”. Ag lenders need to be aware of outlooks and current trends of agricultural commodities so they can accurately advise their customers. Other high priority topics included: CARES internet mapping tools; Health Savings Accounts; ethanol update; FINPACK Business Plan software; and USDA programs. Each lender received a Missouri Farm Financial Outlook 2007 book.
- ▶ **Missouri Business Farm Income Tax School.** New Tax laws with the potential to affect many small businesses and agricultural producers were reviewed. At the school, 36 tax preparers from surrounding counties learned about new 2006 tax legislation, IRS rulings and cases, retirement, small business and individual taxpayer issues, and agricultural issues. The Missouri Business/Farm Income Tax School is a “no nonsense approach to tax preparation and issues,” stated participant Amy Goode.
- ▶ **Show-Me-Select Replacement Bred Heifer Program.** Approximately 20 head of Lafayette Co. heifers were enrolled. The program focuses on proper heifer development and management to minimize calving difficulty and optimize future productivity. Three local producers sold spring calving heifers at the Show-Me Select auction for an average of \$1153 per head.
- ▶ **Agriculture Resource Center.** 1254 citizens received information via phone, Internet, office visits, farm visits or seminar participation. The Lafayette County Center serves as a resource for home and landowners for soil tests, plant disease identification, plant and insect identification, water analysis, and forage testing.
- ▶ **Master Gardeners.** The River Valley Master Gardeners served Lafayette County residents by answering horticultural questions at the “Ask the Master Gardener” booth during the Higginsville Farmer’s Market and beautifying county parks and facilities through volunteer service.
- ▶ **Private Pesticide Applicator Training.** 39 producers went through the training for first-time certification, with 23 producers being re-certified.
- ▶ **On-Farm Research Trials.** The On-Farm Research conducted in 2006 investigated yield response of polymer coated urea product for topdressing wheat and fungicide applications to soybeans. Research reports were compiled and distributed providing producers local data to make management decisions.
- ▶ **Youth and Livestock.** Youth gain critical thinking skills, decision-making, responsibility and sportsmanship with livestock projects. As a result of the carcass show, 15 youth were able view the end product of their projects and evaluate how their animal met the demands of the consumer.



Families & Communities Development

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e believe in what we do, and it shows in our community collaborations, in our programs, and most importantly, in the citizens we serve.

- ▶ **Focus on Kids.** 120 parents attended the education program for divorcing parents that emphasizes understanding the importance of sustained, supportive involvement by both parents. Program provides information on developmental needs and common reactions to divorce by children, and specific behaviors that are helpful in co-parenting situations.
- ▶ **Family Nutrition Education Program.** 3482 high-risk youth and adults learned about healthy eating, fitness and food safety. Classes held through elementary schools, WIC Clinics, Young Parent Support Group, libraries, and HeadStart.
- ▶ **Food Power.** 570 youth participated in this unique interactive, hands-on exhibit to learn about taking care of their body and making healthy choices. The exhibit concentrates on nutrition, hand washing, and physical activity for youth grades K to 4. The goal is to address the increased concern over the rise in obesity in children.
- ▶ **Focus on Women's Health Forum.** 186 women participated to learn more about major health issues impacting women, especially heart disease. Event included health screenings, exhibits, and keynote speakers. 94% reported they plan to adopt more healthful habits such as increasing physical activity and improve nutrition to reduce risk for heart disease.
- ▶ **Stay Strong, Stay Healthy.** 24 individuals participated in this 8 week short course to improve overall health and fitness. This simple, strength building exercise program developed by Tufts University is designed to build muscle, improve balance, and increase bone density. Of those completing the program, 89% felt their health was better because of the program; 79% felt stronger and more energetic; 89% felt confident that they would continue the exercises on a regular basis. On-going "Stay Strong" exercise classes are being held 2-3 times weekly at Senior Centers in Lexington and Higginsville with an average attendance of 12-15.
- ▶ **Missouri on the Move.** Extension collaborated with the Lafayette County Health Department to offer community walking program. 957 individuals from Lafayette County increased their physical activity to improve health by participating in this 10-week pedometer-based walking program. 14% had lowered blood pressure based on pre & post assessments. 60% reported having more energy; 36% were more flexible; 27% were less depressed, and 80% were confident they will continue walking on a routine basis.
- ▶ **Community Health Promotion Exhibits.** Educational displays on preventing diabetes, health benefits of strength training, and portion control provided information and resources to help individuals make healthier choices.

Juneteenth Event in Higginsville—105

St. George Family Fair in Odessa—95

LRHC Health Fair at Lexington—120

Tyson Community Health Fair at Concordia—75

Senior Fitness Fairs—Concordia, Higginsville and Lexington—110



Community & Economic Development

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xtension specialists improve the competitiveness of Missouri businesses through training and business counseling.



► **Fire and Rescue Training Institute** provided training for 172 county firefighters and emergency personnel in firefighting techniques, emergency medical care, technical rescue, environmental and hazardous materials emergency response, and counter terrorism. Nine classes were held on-site in Lafayette County in Alma, Concordia, Mayview and Waverly for the Lafayette Firefighters Association.

► **Law Enforcement Training Institute** trained 4 county officers with education to update on current issues and latest techniques and procedures.

► **Small Business Development** programs assisted 4 business owners with start-up and business management issues resulting in 14 new jobs with 19 jobs retained; and \$1.4 million in increased sales, \$40,000 in government contracts, and \$460,000 in loans.

► **Independent Study/Distance Learning.** 30 residents took advantage of independent or distance study for high school and college credit.



► **Coalition and Networking.** Faculty assist in a variety of ways and leadership capacities with coalitions and organizations throughout the county:

- Lafayette County Inter-Agency
- Soil and Water District Board
- School Wellness Advisory Committees
- Tri-County Community Foundation Board
- Health Care Coalition of Lafayette County
- Lafayette County FFA/4-H Fairboard

► **Weekly News Columns.** Faculty serving the county share writing responsibilities for a weekly column on various subject matter areas.

► **Lafayette LEAD.** 22 citizens graduated from the 15th annual county-wide leadership development program. Through a series of nine sessions and tours, participants evaluate their leadership style, review county demographics, issues and economic development, explore county and state resources, and meet with state officials. The LEAD Board of Directors coordinates and implements the program each year.



4-H Youth Development

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xtension's 4-H Youth development program connects parents and youth in a relaxed learning environment.

- ▶ **4-H Clubs.** Through club involvement youth learn valuable life skills such as: goal setting, problem solving, record keeping, teamwork, and character. 486 members comprise 12 community-based clubs. 100 of these young people were involved in Clover Kids, for youth ages 5-7.
- ▶ **4-H Leadership Development.** 213 volunteer leaders assisted members in project and club work. Volunteers create, support and are part of the 4-H community. National statistics suggest that the average volunteer contributes 208 hours per year. Valuing their time at \$15.24 per hour, based on average Missouri incomes, the contribution of Lafayette County 4-H volunteers was worth more than \$675,192.96 in 2006!
- ▶ **4-H Project Work.** Shooting Sports (148 youth), Horsemanship (109 youth), Beef (83 youth), Arts and Crafts (211 youth), and Woodworking (142 youth), were the five projects with the largest enrollments. Members completed projects by exhibiting 700 indoor projects and 586 livestock/horse projects and other outdoor projects.
- ▶ **4-H Member and Leader Recognition.** 4-H members, Clover Kids and volunteer leaders were recognized for completion of the 4-H year and special accomplishments during the 4-H Recognition and Awards Banquet. Friends of 4-H were recognized by individual 4-H clubs. Melissa Yocum was awarded a Frank Graham State 4-H Leader Award pin. The Ryland Homfeld family was recognized as a Century 4-H Family with their years of membership and service totaling over 100 years.
- ▶ **4-H Member and Leader Opportunities.** Seven youth and one adult chaperone participated in State 4-H Teen Conference, the first statewide event. Nicole Breshears and Chris Henning competed in the National 4-H Shooting Sports Competition. Robby Zeller and Luke Jaster participated in the National Technology Conference. Twenty-six Lafayette County 4-H members competed in the State Shooting Sports Contest. Members also competed in State Fashion Revue, State Public Speaking, State Livestock Judging and the Livestock Judging and Grading Clinic.
- ▶ **4-H Leader Training.** 4-H Volunteer Leaders are the heart of the 4-H program. At the monthly Leader's Coffee, training is provided to facilitate the management of the 4-H program and in child development skills. One leader attended the North Central Region Volunteer Forum in Rochester, Minnesota.
- ▶ **4-H Officer and Leadership Training.** Leadership Lab, a day-long workshop in leadership, was held in December. Thirty Lafayette County 4-H members attended and learned about Parliamentary Procedure, officer responsibilities and challenge activities.
- ▶ **4-H Camp.** Twenty-eight youth explored the theme, "Wild, Wild West 4-H Camp" during the 2006 camping session. Camp was held at Heit's Point near Cole Camp, MO. Nearly 50 Clover Kids came to "Camp Hollywood", the day camp for 4-H Clover Kids and their friends.



2006 Financial Summary

Lafayette County Faculty

► Agriculture

Julie Abendroth, 816.776.6961
Agronomy Specialist

Roger Bennett, 816.252.5051
Dairy Specialist

Elissa Good, 660.584.3658
Livestock Specialist
Headquartered in Lafayette County

► Community Development

Georgia Stuart-Simmons, 660.747.3193
Community Development Specialist

► Families & Communities

Carole Bozworth, 816.482.5850
Consumer & Family Finances Specialist

Marsha Alexander, 816.482.5850
Environmental Design Specialist
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Lisa Wallace, 660.885.5556
Human Development Specialist

Lynda Johnson, 660.584.3658
Nutrition & Health Education Specialist
Headquartered in Lafayette County

Kathy Bondy, 660.584.3658
4-H Youth Specialist
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Office Support Staff

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Secretary

West Central

Regional Office

Al Black, 816.252.7717
West Central Regional Director
Milly Carter, 816.252.7717

LAFAYETTE COUNTY APPROPRIATIONS 2006 BUDGET

	COUNTY	STATE
Salaries & benefits (3 Specialists, 1 Associate)		\$220,467
Secretarial wages & benefits	\$32,567	
Office operations	8,453	
Travel	7,400	787
Computer maintenance - internet	540	6,900
Professional development		6,000
Office supplies & equipment	2,580	
Marketing & postage	310	2,559
TOTAL	\$51,850	\$236,713

2006 Lafayette County Extension Council

The council, comprised of elected and appointed citizens, is a full partner with Missouri's land-grant universities to deliver research-based information that helps people solve real-world problems and take advantage of opportunities. Council members work with specialists to provide the county educational program, manage finances of local extension operations and

Dennis Knipmeyer, <i>Higginsville</i> , Chairman	Tim Lichte, <i>Lexington</i>
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Jan Erdman, <i>Alma</i> , Secretary	Glenn Opfer, <i>Higginsville</i>
Debbie Good, <i>Corder</i> , Treasurer	Gil Rector, <i>Lexington</i>
Donna Boland, <i>Corder</i>	Alfred Riekhof, <i>Mayview</i>
Ralph Collins, <i>Higginsville</i>	Cara Riekhof, <i>Higginsville</i>
Nancy Finkeldei, <i>Corder</i>	Kathy Schnakenberg, <i>Concordia</i>
Mark Heins, <i>Concordia</i>	Juanita Wright, <i>Mayview</i>