

## 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*  
*(housing)*

Kathy Smith, 660.584.3658  
*Family Nutrition Education Associate*  
*Headquartered in Lafayette County*

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*  
*Headquartered in Lafayette County*

### Office Support Staff

Judy Elling, 660.584.3658  
*Secretary*

### West Central

#### Regional Office

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

## 2005 Financial Summary

### LAFAYETTE COUNTY APPROPRIATIONS 2005 BUDGET

	COUNTY	STATE
Salaries & benefits (3 Specialists, 1 Associate)		\$215,090
Secretarial wages & benefits	\$31,865	
Office operations	8,370	
Travel	6,400	750
Computer maintenance - internet	540	6,900
Professional development		6,000
Office supplies & equipment	3,154	
Marketing & postage	250	2,459
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$50,579</b>	<b>\$231,199</b>

### 2005 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 provide personnel to carry out extension activities.

Dennis Knipmeyer, *Higginsville*, Chairman

Cecil Flynn, *Wellington*, Vice Chair

Donna Lichte, *Lexington*, Secretary

Jan Erdman, *Alma*, Treasurer

Greg Bertz, *Mayview*

Kevin Brunkhorst, *Concordia*

Ralph Collins, *Higginsville*

Mark Dobson, *Lexington*

Nancy Finkeldei, *Corder*

Debbie Good, *Corder*

Clarence Limback, *Corder*

Glenn Opfer, *Higginsville*

Gil Rector, *Lexington*

Cara Riekhof, *Higginsville*

Kathy Schnakenberg, *Concordia*

Carl Stein, *Odessa*

Juanita Wright, *Mayview*

## 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 more than **16,038** 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 2005.

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

Donna Lichte  
Secretary

Lynda Johnson  
County Program Director  
Lafayette County Extension

# 2005

## ANNUAL REPORT Lafayette County

### Lafayette County Extension Center

14 E 19th Street, PO Box 490  
Higginsville, MO 64037  
Phone: 660.584.3658  
Fax: 660.584.3659  
E-mail:  
lafayetteco@missouri.edu  
Visit our web site  
extension.missouri.edu/lafayette

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
**Extension**

## Agriculture & Natural Resources

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

► **Forage and Livestock Conference.** Producers attended the annual forage and livestock conference in Concordia, where they learned about utilizing warm season grasses to supplement livestock forage needs.

► **Soybean Rust Epidemic.** Soybean rust entered the U.S. in late 2004 and threatened soybean production, potentially reducing yields by 80%. Numerous efforts were dedicated towards monitoring local soybean fields for soybean rust, to provide weekly disease updates and serve as an early warning system for local producers. A fungicide workshop was also held for producers.

► **Show-Me-Select Replacement Bred Heifer Program.** Approximately 100 head of Lafayette Co. heifers were enrolled in this program, which focused on proper heifer development and management to minimize calving difficulty and optimize future productivity. Three local producers sold 23 head of spring calving heifers for an average of \$1445 per head, grossing \$34,900 in sales.

► **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.

► **Dairy Production.** Over 80 heifers are enrolled in the West Central Missouri Dairy Heifer project. On-going educational support via private consultations and group educational events as it relates to nutrition, production and management, manure management, facilities, and reproduction. Concordia hosted the 55th Lafayette County Dairy Day on November 22, 2005. The program topics included Golden Age Farming, Eminent Domain in Missouri, and production. The Dairy Profit Seminar (Cow College) was held in February in Concordia with dairymen and business reps from throughout the West Central and Central Region attending.

► **Agriculture Resource Center.** 1586 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.** 18 producers went through the training for first-time certification, with 45 producers being re-certified.

► **On-Farm Research.** The On-Farm Research was initiated in 2005 and is comprised of five producers interested in new, innovative technologies and products, and how these perform under Lafayette County soil and environmental conditions, providing local producers local data to make management decisions.

► **Women as Landowners & Landowner Partners.** Over 95 women gained knowledge and skills necessary to make management decisions that will increase income from their land or assets at this program held in July. This program was awarded the USDA Farm Service Agency Administrator's Award for service to agriculture, and is co-hosted annually with the local Farm Service Agencies.



## 4-H Youth Development

**E**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. 560 members comprise 11 community-based clubs. 98 of these young people were involved in Clover Kids, for youth ages 5-7.

► **4-H Leadership Development.** 229 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 \$725,911.68 in 2005!

► **4-H Project Work.** Shooting Sports (173 youth), Horsemanship (102 youth), Beef (86 youth), Arts and Crafts (147 youth), and Woodworking (115 youth), were the five projects with the largest enrollments. Members completed projects by exhibiting 952 indoor projects and 996 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. Robby Zeller and Kelly Heins were recognized as state winners and delegates to National Club Congress. Lisa Abare, Linda Mallott, Connie Thaller and Nancy Caldwell were awarded Frank Graham State 4-H Leader Award pins.

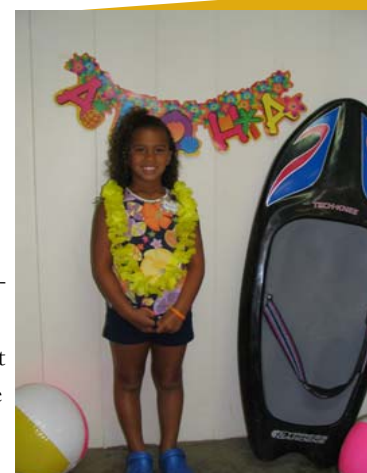
► **Naomi Crouch Volunteer Leader Award.** The Higginsville Chamber of Commerce received this award and was recognized at the Missouri 4-H Foundation Annual meeting for their contribution to the 4-H program that spans over 75 years in Lafayette County.

► **4-H Member and Leader Opportunities.** Seven youth and one adult chaperone participated in State 4-H Teen Conference, the first statewide event. Robby Zeller, Luke Jaster, Nicole Breshears and Matt Breshears competed in the National 4-H Shooting Sports Competition. Robby Zeller and Meaghann Maggert participated in the Citizenship Washington Focus trip to Washington, D.C., with Kathy Bondy serving as coordinator of the group. Emily Abare participated in the Aerospace Camp.

► **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. Three leaders attended the North Central Region Volunteer Forum in Rapid City, South Dakota.

► **4-H Officer and Leadership Training.** Leadership Lab, an afternoon 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-seven youth explored the theme, "Ship Wrecked" during the 2005 camping session. Camp was held at Heit's Point near Cole Camp, MO. Nearly 60 Clover Kids attended the day camp with an "Aloha" theme.



## Community & Economic Development

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

- ▶ **Fire and Rescue Training Institute** provided training for 250 county firefighters and emergency personnel in firefighting techniques, emergency medical care, technical rescue, environmental and hazardous materials emergency response, and counter terrorism. Seven classes were held on-site in Lafayette County.
- ▶ **Law Enforcement Training Institute** trained 13 county officers with education to update on current issues and latest techniques and procedures.
- ▶ **Small Business Development** programs assisted 19 business owners with start-up and business management issues resulting in 1 new business; 57 new jobs; and \$4.6 million in increased sales. 17 individuals participated in business training programs.
  - ▶ **Independent Study/Distance Learning.** 42 residents took advantage of independent or distance study for high school and college credit.
  - ▶ **Coalition and Networking.** Faculty serve in a variety of leadership capacities with 8 various coalitions and organizations throughout the county.
  - ▶ **Weekly News Columns.** Faculty serving the county share writing responsibilities for a weekly column on various subject matter areas.
  - ▶ **Lafayette LEAD 2000.** 23 citizens graduated from the 14th 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 2000 Board of Directors coordinates and implements the program each year.
  - ▶ **Demographic Overview Presentations.** More than 100 local leaders gained insight regarding trends taking place in Lafayette County that affect the economy, social services, and quality of life for residents. Participants then discussed impact and identified crucial issues affecting their communities.
  - ▶ **Volunteer Support.** In 2005, Lafayette County residents benefited from 1027 hours of service from 309 extension volunteers for a total value of \$18,024. This is based on the worth of \$17.55 per hour for volunteer time as set by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Extension trains, supports and coordinates the efforts of a variety of volunteers. Thanks to all these volunteers who help make extension's programs successful in your community!



## Families & Communities

**W**e believe in what we do, and it shows in our history, in our programs, and most importantly, in the citizens we serve.

- ▶ **Focus on Kids.** 186 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.
- ▶ **Child Care Training.** 19 licensed child care providers received training hours for attending workshops focusing on understanding children and how they relate, have fun, and also how to improve child care space.
- ▶ **Family Nutrition Education Program.** 2593 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.
- ▶ **Dining With Diabetes.** 46 persons learned to control diabetes through cooking methods and meal planning in multi-session workshops.
- ▶ **Go Red...The Heart Truth.** 95 women learned the atypical symptoms women experience and the top ten ways to prevent and control heart disease.
- ▶ **Credit Report Protection.** 60 citizens attended programming focused on how to protect yourself from identity theft.
- ▶ **Focus on Women's Health Forum.** 182 women participated to learn more about major health issues impacting women, especially heart disease. Event included health screenings, exhibits, and keynote speakers. 88% 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.** 42 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, 100% felt their health was better because of the program; 95% felt stronger and more energetic; 70% felt confident that they would continue the exercises on a regular basis.
- ▶ **Missouri on the Move.** 327 individuals from Waverly, Alma and Concordia increased their physical activity to improve health by participating in this 8-week pedometer-based walking program. 26% had lowered blood pressure based on pre & post assessments. 64% reported having more energy; 34% were more flexible; and 26% were less depressed.
- ▶ **Food Power.** 967 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.

