In an effort to keep our Nodaway County Extension Council up to date on their office's recent and future programs and activities, here is "What's up!"

February 2013

Randi
Ag Business Specialist & Nodaway CPD

I have been back to work from maternity leave since January 7. It has been a busy month and it almost feels like I wasn’t gone at all. On January 22 & 23, we held the annual Northwest Missouri CCA Conference. It is an event that certified crop advisors can attend to obtain continuing education credits. It was held in St. Joseph. There were around 125 people in attendance. Leading up to the event, I finalized the schedule with the speakers, applied for the CEU credits, coordinated the sign-in and out sheets at the meeting, and am currently working on getting the CEUs approved for the attendees.

Other programs that I have been preparing for are: Ag Updates in my five counties; Annie’s Project to be held in Bethany; and a Forage meeting to be held in Maryville. At the January council meeting, the purchase of a new copy machine was approved. I worked with Lyle Kirk, the DataMax salesman, to get the new copier purchase and installed in the office. The council election was also held in January. With the help of the council and staff we publicized the election through the newspaper and e-mail.

Annette
4H Youth Specialist

Nodaway County 4-H and FFA members brought in their project animals for Beef Weigh Day, held January 26 at the Nodaway Vet Clinic in Maryville. Extension Livestock Specialist Amie Schleicher helped get the animals ready for the Nodaway County Fair, Missouri State Fair, and AK-SAR-BEN Livestock Exposition. We were holding February 9th as our back up date in case of inclement weather, but once again we did not need it! We’ve also been working on plans for our 4-H county-wide family event. Plans are shaping up to offer a Family Fun Day at the Maryville Community Center, Saturday, April 13. More details will be available as plans finalize. Also in April, the Nodaway County 4-H Shooting Sports Leaders will host the traditional Safety Clinic on Saturday, April 20, and they will host the traditional Regional Contest on Saturday, May 4. The committee has been meeting, and plans are well underway for both events. That will bring us up to Crowder 4-H Camps June 4-7 and 11-14, and Mozingo 4-H Camp, June 25-27. Stop by the office if you want to talk camp.....I welcome ideas. I personally have been helping with the Holt County 4-H program while they have been without a 4-H Youth Specialist. An announcement was made that the position would be filled as of February 10, so I will continue to help as needed as we transition staff. The PACE character word for the month of February is Honesty: being truthful in what you say and do. I completed our monthly character programs with the Eugene Field Kindergarten students, and the Maryville Middle School 5th grade students, on Honesty – and we decided to add to the definition. Honesty: being truthful in what you say (and what you don’t say) and do. Something to think about!

Connie
NPA

January has been a very busy and exciting month. I began presenting classes to the fourth graders at Eugene Field Elementary school. I have now had the opportunity to work with every grade level at that school! I also have been working with the pre-kindergarten, second, third, & fourth graders at St. Gregory’s Elementary and both sections of Head Start in Maryville. On Wednesdays each week I have been programming with the pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, first, second, & third graders at Northeast Nodaway Elementary in Ravenwood. Since part of my duties are in other counties I have also been working with students at Worth County Elementary and Worth County Head Start.

I manned a booth at the Maryville Health Fair on Saturday, January 19 and was able to assist approximately 200 adults with making wiser snack choices. I presented 2 lunch bags full of items as door prizes to Kathryn Murphy and Deb Gibbons. It was a great morning!

On January 25 we had our first FNEP staff meeting of the year in Hamilton with Penny Hopkins, our new Project Director, leading the meeting. It was great to welcome Pam Gladbach, Cherry Merchant, Sarah Oser, Dena Skinner, and Kathy Smith to our Northwest Region. They are Nutrition Program Associates that come to us from either the Central Region or the West Central Region.

During my office hours I finished preparing the fifth grade curriculum and am ready to have a work day on this curriculum so I can begin presenting it during the fourth session.
This month has been filled with meetings and training in Columbia. I also helped on the interview team for a new program manager for the FNEP team. We hired one of our nutrition educators that had been on the team for 11 years. We have located an office space in Cameron (to make the FNEP office more centrally located), it looks like we will be able to use this space starting March 1st. We will still have a nutrition educator based out of Nodaway county and will continue to serve the schools and other audiences that meet our grant guidelines.

The month of January has flown by and I don’t know where it went! I have been busy working on end of year reports and preparing to close out 2012. Other tasks done in January included taking registration for the Private Pesticide Applicator Training and Ag Update meeting, ordering and printing classroom newsletters and handouts for the March to May teaching session for the Family Nutrition Program (FNEP) associates in the Northwest Region. This includes five additional FNEP associates joining our region as of January 1. Soil tests continue to come in, there were five samples sent into the lab Columbia in January.

It really doesn’t seem like it could be that time yet, but sure enough I was busy just last week putting together mailings for 4-H to go out to youth 14-18 for Crowder Camp counselor applications. At the same time the office sent 8-13 year olds their information to sign up for Crowder Camp in June. It must still be winter though, because a gentleman stepped in the other day to get information and diagrams on how to prune his fruit trees and according to our extension sources, winter is when you’re supposed to prune fruit trees. I am so excited to be working with Annette on plans for the countywide 4-H event in April. It will definitely be a MEGAFUN (yes that is a word) time!

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