"Equal opportunity is and shall be provided to all participants in Extension programs and activities, and for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without discrimination on the basis of their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran. This policy shall not be interpreted in such a manner as to violate the legal rights of religious organizations or military organizations associated with the armed forces of the United States of America."
December 2009

Dear Members of the County Commission and the Community:

As we approach the end of another year and the beginning of a new year, I want to thank you for the support you have given to your local University of Missouri Extension Center during these difficult economic times. Your partnership with federal and state government and many other entities through MU Extension has made it possible for:

- Young people to learn life skills that make them contributing, caring members of the community; prepare them with science-based education for higher education and careers of the future; and help them avoid risky behaviors.
- Aspiring entrepreneurs and existing businesses to be more efficient and profitable, thereby helping to strengthen the local economy.
- Farmers and agribusinesses to incorporate new, research-based production techniques and best practices into their operations to improve their bottom line while protecting the environment.
- Families to learn and engage in healthy nutrition, fitness and lifestyle behaviors, which also help them reduce medical costs.
- Firefighters, nurses, law enforcement officers, teachers and others maintain and upgrade their professional skills and certifications.
- Communities to develop local leaders and deal with critical issues in a non-biased, neutral way for the public good.

The funds invested in MU Extension are well-managed. $11 million in county council funds, combined with other public and private funds, allow us to deliver $99 million worth of educational programs statewide. While the methods for delivering educational programs continue to evolve – including the Web, videos, social networking media, print materials and face-to-face meetings – the core of MU Extension’s mission remains:

“... to improve people’s lives, communities and the economy by providing Relevant, Responsive and Reliable Research-based education.”

If you have suggestions for how MU Extension can better serve your needs, please contact me or your local extension center.

Sincerely,

Vice Provost and Director
Extension’s Program Guidance Comes From You

The University of Missouri Extension council and staff would like to thank the Shelby County commissioners for their support and funding for programs during this past year. In turn, the council and staff remain committed to improve 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 Shelby County focus on Family Strengths, Agriculture Profitability, Community Leadership, and Youth.

The mission of University of Missouri Extension, a partnership of the University of Missouri campuses, Lincoln University, the people of Missouri through county extension councils and the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is to: “serve Missouri by extending 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.” Both the University of Missouri and Lincoln are Missouri’s two 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 Shelby County.

Submitted by,

Charles Carpenter
Council Chairman

Wendy Brumbaugh
County Program Director
The mission of University Extension is to extend the educational resources and knowledge base of the University of Missouri and Lincoln University to the People of Missouri.

### Introduction to University Of Missouri Extension

University Extension is the statewide educational outreach of the University of Missouri System, which has campuses in Columbia, Kansas City, Rolla, and St. Louis, and Lincoln University in Jefferson City. Extension specialists on the campuses and in 114 counties and the City of St. Louis provide educational programs to help citizens apply university research knowledge to solve individual and community problems.

One and one half million Missourians each year, urban and rural, benefit from the educational programs and research information provided by University Extension. Extension Programs center around four major emphases:

- **Agricultural Profitability**
- **Community Resource Development**
- **Family Strengths and Youth Development**
- **Lifelong Education and Professional Development**

Through conferences, short courses, workshops, town meetings, one-to-one consultations, printed and videotaped materials, and the mass media, University Extension delivers the knowledge and resource base of Missouri's land grant universities to citizens.

University Extension specialists work in collaboration with personnel from state agencies and local organizations to draw together whatever resources may be needed—whether from a university campus or other source—to help citizens accomplish their goals.

Throughout Missouri, extension specialists put into practice the University Extension slogan: “Live. And Learn”

### Purpose of Extension Councils

The councils have four purposes assigned by law:

1. Make recommendations and suggestions to the University concerning the extension programs.
2. Make recommendations and suggestions to the University concerning the appointment or removal of extension personnel.
3. Arrange for and administer the county’s share of the cost of the extension services over which the council has jurisdiction.
4. Receive, hold and/or sell real and personal property reasonably required for the extension program.

### Mission

The mission of University Extension is to extend the educational resources and knowledge base of the University of Missouri and Lincoln University to the People of Missouri.
HISTORY

The University of Missouri is the oldest university west of the Mississippi River, and for 150 years has been helping Missouri citizens use knowledge to solve problems and lead more productive lives.

The University has treated education as a lifelong process. Extension and continuing education activities of the University have operated in tandem with its research and teaching functions. The Morrill Act of 1862, which established land-grant colleges, and the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, which instituted the Cooperative Extension Service, are the foundations for the University as a land-grant institution. Together, the universities are helping people turn knowledge into know-how by applying research and academic findings to everyday problems. Education is the key to improving the quality of life for all citizens, and University Extension is committed to extending the entire resources of the University of Missouri and Lincoln University to accomplish that goal.
Wendy Brumbaugh, Family Financial Education Specialist is headquartered in Shelby County; and is responsible for programming in Ralls, Marion, Pike, Randolph, Macon, Monroe, and Linn Counties. Following is a brief summary of some of the programs conducted in 2009.

“Preparing for the Long Haul” was a ten month program held at the Hannibal Vocational Technical School for the Licensed Practical Nursing program. Thirty-five students attended the monthly sessions which coincided with their regular class schedule that began in September 2008 through July 2009. Wendy designed the multisession curriculum in order to be more effective over time and establish rapport with the students. The program was based on identified needs of the students gathered from a pre-test. Because of the history of default rates and the current economic crisis, this program was more critical than ever. Consequently, that justified including every concept of financial management through the program. Comments included: “This program has been very helpful to me and will help me with long term goals once I graduate” “Thank you for a wealth of information, it is all very useful”

“Home Ownership Made Easy (H.O.M.E.)” was presented by Wendy Brumbaugh for participants in Knox, Shelby, & Linn Counties. The goals for the program are to assist families in purchasing their first home. Objectives for the workshop include: the importance of building assets; setting goals; overcoming financial obstacles; creating a spending plan; learning to communicate about money; understanding the value of good credit; and learning what financial institutions can do for the homeowner.

“Piecing Together Financial Challenges” is a multisession program that allows participants to become engaged in communication about ways to save and make better consumer choices. At the end of 30 minutes of discussion based on a given topic, each participant pieces a quilt block. The program teaches money saving tips, strengthens social and communication skills, and addresses making financial decisions during tough economic times. At the end of 12 sessions, all nineteen participants will not only have a notebook of money saving ideas, but will have a beautiful quilt as a reminder of each topic. The final session concluded with everyone displaying their completed quilt, completing evaluations, and discussing the money saving tips they learned throughout the 12 sessions.
“Small Steps to Health & Wealth” is an educational and fun program that shows the similarities between both aspects of life. There are 25 behavior-change strategies that can be applied to simultaneously improve both your health and personal finances. These include: visualization and affirmations, meeting yourself halfway, stepping down or kicking current practices up a notch, comparing yourself with recommended benchmarks, converting consumption into labor and living “The Power of 10”. Wendy offered this program to 49 participants and the evaluations have been positive including the following statement from one participant: “The section about starting small really hit home with me because I have been on a diet much of my adult life and continue to be overweight, I never thought about the same ideas as related to saving money. Little bits really do add up if we stick to it”

“Holidays Unwrapped” was offered at the Shelby County Extension office as a kick off to the holiday season. Fifteen women participated in the program that was presented by Wendy and Lesley Daniel, YPA. Money Habitude cards are a novel, non-threatening way to discover the habits and attitudes, i.e. “habitudes” that affect decisions and actions related to money. The program answers questions and provides information to optimize financial decision making skills. The participants successfully accomplished the following goals:

Each participant:
1. Identified at least one realistic financial goal.
2. Started communicating about personal habitudes
3. Developed more realistic savings plans
4. Understood negative impacts for overuse of credit

As County Program Director, Wendy continues to collaborate with agencies in programs and promotion of University of Missouri resource materials. She proctors tests for students, manages the daily office routine/schedule, oversees the fiscal policies, maintains a positive relationship with elected and appointed Extension Council members, and serves on local and statewide board of directors for the following organizations: United Way, Grass Roots Organizing, Missouri Association of Community Arts Agencies, Bethel Food Pantry, Shelby County Human Resource Council, Celebration of Sharing, University of Missouri Extension Association, and Missouri Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.
**Money Management**

Wendy Brumbaugh, Family Financial Education Specialist taught eighty-nine offenders from Macon (26), Randolph (6), Shelby (44), Linn (2), Marion (6), Ralls (1), Monroe (2), Pike (2) Counties a 5-hour money management workshop at the "request" of the 41st Judicial Circuit Court. The workshop is interactive and avoids the traditional teacher/lecture format. The workshop focused on values, goal setting, managing resources, developing a budget, checking, using credit, renting to own, and living on less. Participants worked in teams as well as individually to make the experience more meaningful. Follow-up evaluations indicated that all participants established goals. Comments included: “Thank you for presenting the information in a meaningful way.” “I wish I’d had this class several years ago before I made stupid mistakes” and “I appreciate the useful information because I can make changes that will affect my family.”

**Managing Stress with Humor**

During 2009, there were a total of 39 participants in attendance from Shelby County who participated in Wendy Brumbaugh’s program “A Laugh a Day will Keep the Dr. Away”. Participants learned that stress overload could be dangerous both physically and mentally. Through activities and humor, participants were engaged in various forms of humor therapy and learned that laughing can be an important tool when it comes to managing stress. Studies show that laughter reduces stress, increases pain tolerance, and boosts immune functions. The program was offered to several women’s groups. One participant said, “This program is a great way to reduce stress. She gave the program for two Shelby County clubs, one ladies group, and one business as a staff in-service. It is a proven fact that humor can improve the immune system. The therapeutic effects of laughter were presented along with some stress reducing techniques. The power of positive thinking was discussed and attendees were actively involved in strengthening communication skills and “mind binders”. Hearty laughter speeds up the heart rate, improves blood circulation, accelerates breathing, and increases oxygen consumption. The members concluded the program with a laughter IQ test.

**Volunteer Income Tax Assistance**

Wendy Brumbaugh, Family Financial Education Specialist and locally trained volunteers prepared and filed taxes for 231 area residents through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance at no charge. This alone saved tax filers approximately $18,125.00 in filing fees, and approximately $140,000 came back to Shelby County in refunds that may have gone unclaimed had it not been for the VITA program. The tax refunds help families to better meet their needs and is an economic boost to the community. Some people do not file a return when they have to pay for filing and through the free filing program, those families are able to recover the credits due them.

Congress first enacted the Earned Income Tax Credit in 1975 in response to high unemployment and the burden that social security taxes imposed upon low-wage workers. The EITC is a refundable income tax credit designed to help low-income workers increase their financial stability. The Missouri Taxpayer Education Initiative (MoTax) is a project that provides a gateway to financial education through taxpayer assistance. Not only does the taxpayer have his/her taxes filed for free, but he/she receives a financial education packet and one on one instruction at the time of filing. The packets continue to be well-received by our program participants and provide an excellent tool for coaching the clients and emphasizing the importance of the financial planning process.
Experience in Community Enterprise and Leadership Development (EXCEL) is an opportunity for residents to learn leadership skills and become united in efforts to participate in growth of a community. The Regional EXCEL is a step beyond the traditional thinking of one community into a broader way of thinking. By including several counties involved in the RBOG project, the goal was to expand an already excellent program and participate across county lines so more communities could reap the benefit. After all, not many of us stay within our resident county to shop and/or work.

Sixteen people registered for the ten session program. The purpose of the 24 hour retreat, the first gathering after the kick-off dinner, was to get acquainted, build rapport and team spirit among the participants and what better way to do this than to spend 24 hours with a group. During the retreat, activities included personality assessments, team building, goal setting, developing leadership skills, enhancing facilitation skills, gathering community knowledge, and brainstorming. Participants were engaged in activities that increased their knowledge about available resources in their communities and learned about business opportunities.

The program ended with a graduation ceremony where participants discussed the strengths of the program and formed a committee to lead the next EXCEL in two years.
Pictured above are Jeff Blackford and Connie Thurman, Managers of Monroe City Sheltered Workshop; Maurice Shuck, Shelby Co. Eastern Commissioner; Robin Fitzgerald, Manager of Mark Twain Regional Council of Government; Shelby Co. Presiding Commissioner, Glenn Eagan; Cindy Hultz, District Planner for the Mark Twain solid Waste Management District; Kerry McCarty, Shelby Co Western Commissioner; and Wendy Brumbaugh, University of Missouri, Shelby County Extension. In the background is one of five new recycling trailers provided by grant funds to the Shelby County Commissioners. Wendy Brumbaugh collaborated with the commissioners in their grant application.

**Building Strong Families**
Newspaper articles are one of many ways to have indirect contact with potentially large audiences. In 2009, Leanne Spengler, Human Development Specialist, submitted articles to the county office for distribution to local newspaper. These articles generally focused on a timely parenting topic including:

- Newspaper articles featured information on managing time in tough economic times. Topics included: “Spending Your Time”, “Family Time”, “Taking Time to Talk”, “Summertime”, “Time for a Change”, and “‘Tis the Season”.

**NUTRITION**
Jim Meyer-Nutrition Specialist

On May 28, 2009, Jim gave a Pressure Canner workshop. Pressure gauges were checked and canning questions discussed.

A Spring 2010 workshop is planned “Eat Well, Be Well with Diabetes”.

10
The public value of well-trained child care professionals is tremendous for the children, the families, and employers in our communities. When caregivers of children birth through school-age have knowledge of child development, age-appropriate learning experiences, safe and healthy learning environments, communication, and relationship building everyone benefits. The children will thrive and parents will be secure in the knowledge of their children receiving quality care and education. Employers experience lower absenteeism among employees, higher productivity, and higher morale among employees who have their children in quality child care settings.

**Jane Hunter, Human Development Specialist**, provides training to those in early care and education through programs developed in Human Development and Family Studies Extension and through the Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral and the State of Missouri Section for Child Care Regulation. The following curricula have been used during the 2009 program year: Building Strong Families modules for child care providers; Making Math Fun; Encouraging Young Scientists; Early Literacy; Infant-Toddler Child Care Orientation Training and Professionals Advancing through Continuing Education.

The majority of the modules are two-hour workshops presented to early care educators in evening settings. The programs presented by University of Missouri Extension have been approved by the State of Missouri Section for Child Care Regulation as clock-hours of training. The University of Missouri regional faculty and the materials developed by University of Missouri Extension are highly regarded at the state level. The State curricula are six-clock hours of education provided on Saturdays.

This year trainings have been held throughout the region with early care educators traveling in from surrounding counties to attend the trainings. Therefore, every county in Northeast Missouri has been affected by these trainings. The registrations indicate participants from every county in NE Missouri as well as participants from Lincoln, Audrain, Mercer, and Grundy Counties which surround our region.

Over 250 contacts have been made through these trainings. Jane is also a consultant for child care licensing by performing observations in child care centers out of compliance with state rules and regulations. She assists staff in further education and evaluating the child care setting to improve care provided to the children. The Child Development Associate class offered through the Macon Career Center and supported by a grant from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is offered each year. Jane is one of three instructors in this course and an advisor to participants who have been from Macon, Shelby, Randolph, Marion, Monroe, and Pike Counties the past ten years.

Other regional faculty who provide early care and education training opportunities in the NE Region include Leanne Spengler, Jim Meyer, Debby Whiston, Wendy Brumbaugh, Sherry Nelson, Judy Howard and Tom Fuhrman. Early care educators are required to receive twelve clock-hours of education per year. University of Missouri Extension is the primary provider of this education which once again benefits the children who are the youngest citizens of our state; the families who are working hard to provide for their children; and employers. It is our goal to assist the citizens of our state in providing safe and quality care to all children in care settings.
Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP)

University of Missouri Extension (UME) Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP) reached 1,334 low-income participants with direct nutrition education in Shelby County during 2009. FNEP provides information on nutrition, food safety, and physical activity for lifelong health and fitness.

Nutrition education for youths provides information in kid-friendly terms and lessons with hands-on activities. Activities include opportunities for taste-testing healthy foods and practicing skills that lead to good health. Education for adults includes nutrition, food safety, physical activity, and food resource management.

Evaluation data collected across the entire state reflects the positive impacts that occur in every county with FNEP. Within FNEP are two key programs, each with its own system for evaluating impact: the Family Nutrition Program (FNP) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).

For youths who participated in FNP, results summarized for the state revealed the following positive impacts:

- Three thousand four hundred eleven (3,411) teachers gave us feedback.
- 65% have participated in FNP for more than 3 years
- 99% (3,375 teachers) reported one or more changes in students after FNP.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student changes reported by teachers</th>
<th>Percent of teachers who observed each type of student change</th>
<th>Percent of teachers whose students talked about this change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More aware of nutrition</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make healthier meal and/or snack choices</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat breakfast more often</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More willing to try new foods</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved hand washing</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved food safety</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased physical activity</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teachers’ Changes (self-reported)</th>
<th>Percent of teachers who made each type of change</th>
<th>Percent of teachers already practicing the behavior</th>
<th>Percent of teachers who model or talk about the behavior in front of students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More aware of nutrition</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make healthier meal and/or snack choices</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat breakfast more often</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More willing to try new foods</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved hand washing</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved food safety other than hand washing</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased physical activity</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make/offer healthier food choices for students</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Evaluation data was collected on students who participated in a variety of curricula from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12.

Adults who participated in FNP also made significant improvements in each area addressed.

### Dietary Quality and Physical Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Percent of respondents reporting improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Think about healthy food choices when deciding what to feed your family</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use the “Nutrition Facts” label to make food choices</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consume something within 2 hours of waking</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consume the equivalent of 3 cups of milk, yogurt, and cheese each day</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat more than one kind of vegetable each day</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat more than one kind of fruit each day</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise for a total of 30 minutes each day</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Food Safety

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Percent of respondents reporting improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Let meat and dairy foods sit out for more than 2 hours</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thaw frozen foods at room temperature</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Food Resource Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Percent of respondents reporting improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plan meals ahead of time</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compare prices before bought food</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop with a grocery list</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lori Atkins is the Nutrition Program Assistant (NPA) for Shelby County. For 2007/08, Lori reached a total of 623 students in Shelby County. Positive teacher and student feedback keep the Family Nutrition Education Program coming back year after year impacting participants to understand and apply the importance of healthy nutrition and physical activity habits in their lives beginning at an early age. Success Stories are comments and observations made by teachers, students, parents and the NPA themselves that are shared throughout the State so others can hear first-hand what is being said about the program. Here are some examples:

- “This is a great program. Very important. Lori Atkins did a super job of presenting.”
- “Students enjoyed the program. Understanding healthy food choices and the role of physical activity is really important. Thanks for coming!”
- “My class looked forward to Ms. Atkins coming each week!”

AGRONOMY

Private Pesticide Applicator Training: University of Missouri Extension is responsible for certification of Private Pesticide Applicators in Missouri. Certification and re-certification require attending a 2 hour class on the safe use of pesticides. Re-certification is required every 5 years. A license received upon certification/re-certification must be presented to pesticide vendors in order to purchase restricted use pesticides. In 2009 one evening class per county was offered in Knox, Monroe, and Shelby Counties. Individuals unable to attend an evening class could contact their nearest University of Missouri Extension office to schedule a time to watch a training video for certification. Approximately 70 farmers were certified using one of these two certification methods in Knox, Monroe, and Shelby counties in 2009.

Diagnostic Services: The University of Missouri Soil and Plant Testing Lab, as well as the University of Missouri Plant Diagnostic Clinic, offer several tests beneficial to farmers and landowners. Soil testing was the most commonly used diagnostic service in 2009, providing 70 farmers and landowners in Knox, Shelby, and Monroe counties with plant specific recommendations regarding how much fertilizer and lime to apply for optimum plant health and yield. Other plant growing media, such as compost and manure, can be analyzed by the lab for nutrient content. Water testing is also available to determine suitability for irrigation, livestock, and domestic use. Plant samples with damage symptoms from an unknown pest can be shipped to the Plant Diagnostic Clinic for identification of the pest and treatment recommendations.

Insect Pest Monitoring: Set traps in Shelby County for weekly monitoring of the following insects: Black Cutworm, True Armyworm, Japanese beetle, European corn borer, Western Bean Cutworm, and Corn Earworm. Trapping results are available to the public on the MU IPM pest monitoring website immediately after counts are completed. Anyone can view the results online as well as sign up for email alerts when a pest of interest reaches economic threshold levels.
**Producer Consultations:** Responded to questions received from farmers and landowners, and traveled to fields to diagnose problems when possible. Assisted producers with sending soil, water, leaf, and grain samples to diagnostic labs. Provided producers with up to date pest identification guides. In 2009 30 individuals who had contacted their local extension office for agronomic information were referred to me for additional help in answering a difficult question or identifying a pest.

**Articles:** Provided articles or interviews for the following publications: Missouri Farmer Today, Corn and Soybean Digest, Shelby County Herald, Edina Sentinel, University of Missouri Extension Ag-Info Newsletter, and University of Missouri Extension Garden Talk Newsletter.

**Presentations:** Presented information on University of Missouri Soil and Plant Testing Lab services to attendees of the 2009 Greenley Research Center Field Day on August 13, 2009. Presented information on row crop nutrient management at the 2009 Monroe County Extension Night held March 12, 2009.

**Shelby County Ag Night:** Ag Night is an annual event hosted by University of Missouri Extension of Shelby County and the North Shelby High School Ag Leaders. Donations are requested from local businesses to cover the cost of a catered meal, radio and newspaper advertising, and a portion of speaker travel costs. University of Missouri Extension is responsible for advertising the event. Hosts cooperate in planning the event’s speakers and schedule. University of Missouri Extension hires the caterer, manages the donations, pays all event costs, and prints the programs and evaluation forms. North Shelby Ag Leaders representative Jesse Schwanke organized the facilities used at North Shelby High School in 2009. In 2009 45 people attended Shelby County Ag Night.

**HORTICULTURE**

**Individual Consultations:** University of Missouri Extension Horticulture specialists respond to questions from individuals pertaining to any horticulture topic. Questions about pest control are answered with regard to safety and environmental stewardship in addition to controlling the pest. Research based publications and information can be provided via telephone, email, and mail. Growers and the general public can benefit from the additional food and/or environmental benefits that result from growers using research proven management practices. In 2009 54 individuals who contacted the Marion, Monroe, Pike, Ralls, or Shelby extension office for horticulture information were referred to me for additional help in answering a question or identifying a plant or pest.

**Diagnostic services:** The University of Missouri Soil and Plant Testing Lab, as well as the University of Missouri Plant Diagnostic Clinic, offer several tests beneficial to gardeners and homeowners. Soil testing is the most commonly used diagnostic service, providing gardeners and homeowners with plant specific recommendations regarding how much fertilizer and lime to apply for optimum plant health. Other plant growing media, such as compost and manure, can be analyzed by the lab for nutrient content. Water testing is also available to determine suitability for irrigation and domestic use. Plant samples with damage symptoms from an unknown pest can be shipped to the Plant Diagnostic Clinic for identification of the pest and treatment recommendations.
HORTICULTURE CONT.

**Articles:** Provided articles for the Edina Sentinel, Shelby County Herald, University of Missouri Extension Ag-Info newsletter and University of Missouri Extension Garden Talk newsletter. Dates and registration information for regional and state horticulture events were advertised to residents of Marion, Monroe, Pike, Ralls, and Shelby counties using available media outlet.

**Master Gardener:** The mission of the Missouri Master Gardener Extension Program is “helping others learn to grow.” The Master Gardener program provides in depth horticultural training to individuals throughout Missouri who then volunteer their time applying what they have learned to help others in their communities to learn about gardening and environmental education. To become trained as a Master Gardener, an individual must attend a 30 hour classroom Core Course training. Then the Master Gardener trainee is required to give 30 hours of volunteer service back to their community in approved University of Missouri Extension activities. One Master Gardener training course was offered by University of Missouri Extension in the Northeast region in 2009, it was held in Kirksville.

Two Master Gardeners from Shelby County reported 103 hours in 2009. Of that, 86.5 were service hours and 16.5 were continuing education. The Independent Sector values volunteer service performed in 2009 at an hourly rate of $20.25 (data is for 2008; new rates are to be released in spring 2010). Using this figure, the Shelby County Master Gardeners volunteered $1,751.60 worth of their time to service projects benefiting Shelby County and the city of Clarence and Shelbina. Volunteer service included beautification at Clarence Elementary School, assisting elderly persons with gardening and yard work, giving a gardening program, and consultations and advice to the gardening public.

**Classes and Workshops:** In 2009 a presentation on herbs was given to members of a garden club near New London, in cooperation with Ray Crane. A monthly gardening workshop was offered at North Shelby High School from May through September in cooperation with adult agriculture instructor Jesse Schwanke. An introduction to community gardening presentation was provided at Monroe City High School in cooperation with Steve Yates.
Staff Name: Karisha Devlin  
Program Name: Northeast Missouri Agriculture Newsletter  
Summary of Program:

*Ag-Info* is a bi-monthly newsletter that provides producers with timely production and marketing information and advertises University of Missouri Extension programs. The newsletter is intended to address a wide variety of clientele including those who are not readily available for face-to-face meetings. *Ag-Info* is distributed to over 937 addresses in Shelby, Lewis, Marion, Monroe, and Ralls counties. The newsletter is a cooperative effort between Alix Carpenter, Editor, Agronomy Specialist; Karisha Devlin, Ag Business Specialist; Al Kennett, Livestock Specialist; Max Glover; Plant Science Specialist, and Zac Erwin, Livestock Specialist.

Staff Name: Karisha Devlin  
Program Name: Women in Agriculture Event – Shelbina, MO  
The USDA offices in Macon, Shelby, and Monroe County hosted an evening program for farm women. Extension assisted with promoting the event and registration of attendees.

Program Name: Annie’s Project

Annie’s Project is an educational program that was created specifically for farm women. The program was created by Ruth Hambleton, University of Illinois Extension, Farm Business Management and Marketing Educator, who was inspired by her mother’s challenges and successes in agriculture. Annie’s Project is a program that takes her experiences and shares it with farm women living and working in a complex business.

This winter, an Annie’s Project course was offered in Monroe City, MO. The program was delivered through face-to-face instruction and ITV. Sixteen women participated in the course. The topics taught in the course were: risk management, record keeping software, ownership of property, insurance, financial statements, spreadsheets, writing a business plan, estate planning, leases, communication issues, personality traits, and marketing.

Annie’s Project provides farm women with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to make informed risk management decisions regarding their farm business operations. This enables farm women to become better managers, and in turn, increase the viability of their farming operation. It also gives farm women an opportunity to network and interact with other women involved in agriculture. Instructors included: Karisha Devlin, Wendy Brumbaugh, Charles Holland, and Mary Sobba.
Selected Comments:

- "I believe this is a wonderful class, networking experience, and program!"
- "I believe I have come away with valuable knowledge, tools, resources, and a desire to further explore what recourses I received.
- "I believe this class has given me more valuable information that I thought I would learn about everything."
- "The software will be a huge help to my operation."
- "I believe that I will be able to manage my farm better."
- "I wish I had attended this class earlier!"
- “Each night I found some portion of the program to be very valuable."
- "I have been able to ask better questions to my business partners, in order to get a proper answer without them thinking I am nosy."

"I believe that this could be a great tool for young couples to take together to plan and build their lives in agriculture. If I had known more about all these topics 25-30 years ago...perhaps I would have made better choices that could have placed us in an even better place financially today.

(Participation by County: Ralls-3, Shelby-2, Monroe-7, and Marion-4)

FARM LEASE CONCERNS PROMPTS JOINT PROGRAMMING

High farmland values (compared to past years) and higher crop prices have caused an intense interest in farm lease questions and information for the past year couple of years. Many landowners today are not rural residents and as such are not familiar with traditional Agricultural practices. Cash rents in Missouri have gone up anywhere from $15 to $100 per acre due to these factors and landlords want to be certain they’re getting their “fair” share of those rents.

Five Agricultural Business Specialists throughout the state discussed the need for a statewide program on farm leases. Each agreed to do a portion of the program via Interactive Television or ITV to make it available on a wider basis. Three sessions were done in 2009 with 181 persons attending. This was a tremendous turnout for the first year of a program done this way, especially considering the 1st session had to be re-scheduled due to inclement winter weather. The September
session featured a new evaluation form designed to get better impact data. Information collected from the September program showed that 98% felt ITV was an effective teaching method, 83% said they now know the correct way to terminate a farm lease and 84% knew where they could go to get lease forms and assistance. Since lease termination causes so many conflicts, knowing the law on termination will lessen those conflicts in the long run. Additionally, a DVD was produced from the September program that has been watched by several landowners and provided to 1 other county.

Topics included current rental rates and trends, specific items to include in a farm lease, terminating a farm lease correctly, lease hunting issues and crop and livestock share lease concerns. Wayne Prewitt, Mary Sobba, Joe Koenen, Darla Campbell and Karisha Devlin, all Agricultural Business Specialists with University of Missouri Extension, presented the program with the support of other faculty members at several sites throughout Missouri. Feedback and follow-up since the program has been excellent among clientele as well as co-workers.

(23 from Marion; 11 from Shelby; 9 from Adair; 6 from Randolph; 6 from Monroe; 5 from Scotland; 5 from Putnam; 3 from Ralls; 3 from Linn; 2 from Lewis; 2 from Clark and 1 from Knox)

Women In Agriculture 15th Annual State Conference – Jennifer Schutter, Karisha Devlin, Alix Carpenter, Darla Campbell, Debby Whiston, and Judy Howard

September 14, 15, and 16th saw the influx of over 180 women in agricultural fields to Kirksville, Missouri where the 15th annual state Women in Ag Conference was held. The program included a tour of Heartland Dairy and Creamery and a wildflower twilight tour. Educational sessions were held on Companion Planting; Life Balance Challenges; Estate Planning Basics; Dealing with Stress; Fall Flower Arranging; Reintroducing Native Plants; Update on Animal Health; What’s Type Got To Do With It?; Quick, Easy, Healthy and Cheap Meal Planning for the Working Woman; USDA Programs; Farm Bill; Women’s Preventative Health; and Legal Issues in Agriculture. The conference also had a silent auction, hospitality room, vendor displays, and attendance prizes. Attendees were able to see the agricultural diversity Northeast Missouri has to offer and to network with other women producers and ag professionals. On the evaluations, women said, “The Heartland tours were fantastic – very interesting. Enjoyed the evening tour – very unique and utilized time for the conference.” “It’s nice to get acquainted with so many other ladies with similar backgrounds.” Great Conference! One of the best I’ve attended.” “Excellent conference. This was the first one I had attended and am highly impressed. From the workshops to the tours to the Wednesday morning speakers. Everything was relevant information. The conference was very well put together.”
Agriculture Lenders attend seminars in NE Missouri
Darla Campbell, Joe Koenen, Karisha Devlin

Thirty-three lenders attended one of the Northeast Missouri Ag Lenders’ Seminars held in Kirksville and Hannibal. At these one-day seminars, lenders learned about Crop and Livestock Outlook; Macro Economics; Land Values: Changes to Soil and Water Conservation Districts Cost Share; Small Business Administration Programs; Trade Opportunities; Missouri Agriculture and Small Business Authority; North Missouri Budgets; and Biofuels. On a scale from 1 to 10 with “1” being very little value and “10” being very valuable, the average score was an “9” with both sites averaged together. The lenders in attendance loan over $271 Million a year to agriculture operations totaling over 2977 different loans in Northeast Missouri according to evaluation totals they submitted. This annual event is an excellent networking opportunity for lenders and for Extension Specialists to work and learn together to help our clients throughout the year.

(Lenders attending: Pike-7, Marion-8-, Sullivan-2, Knox-3, Adair-1, Lewis-2, Macon-5, Boone-2, Scotland – 1; Shelby -2; lenders from nearly every other county in NE MO requested the Missouri Farm Financial Outlook 2010 Book which was mailed or delivered to them)
**LIVESTOCK**
Zac Erwin, Livestock Specialist

**Beef Improvement Program**
Four beef producers in Shelby County are enrolled in the Northeast Missouri Beef Improvement program. These producers all sell bulls in the Northeast Missouri Performance Tested bull sale held annually in Palmyra as well as off the farm.

Six producers from Shelby Co. purchased bulls in the N.E. MO performance Tested Bull Sale and numerous others purchased bulls off the farm from breeders enrolled in the performance tested program. This value added sale averaged $2473.00 on 50 head of bulls.

**Show-Me-Select Replacement Heifer Program**
The Show-Me-Select program focuses on increased adoption rate by farmers in Missouri of management practices that offer potential to improve long-term reproductive efficiency of their herds and resulting profitability. Also focusing on increasing marketing opportunities for and adding value to Missouri-raised heifers with the creation of reliable sources of quality replacement heifers in terms of genetics and management.

Three producers from Shelby Co. purchased heifers in the Show-Me-Select heifer sale held in December, where 144 head of heifers sold for an average price of $1273.00.

**Beef Cattle Rations**
The regional livestock specialist worked individually with four Shelby Co. beef producers in developing rations. The use of by-product feeds was a major emphasis in many of these cases. Forage analysis was also done in several cases. By including the by-product feeds, producers are able to lower their ration costs.

**Artificial Insemination School**
The first artificial insemination school for beef cattle was held at the Greenley Research Center at Novelty, MO. Producers attended a 3 day class learning about artificial insemination techniques, anatomy and physiology of the reproductive tract, synchronization methods, semen handling, and equipment functions. Ten area beef producers, two from Shelby County, were certified to artificially inseminate cattle.

**Greenley Research Field Day**
The regional livestock specialist presented and submitted material to the field day proceedings at the Greenley Research Field day on the topic of Forage testing and analysis interpretation. There were 300 area producers who attended the event.

**Premier Beef Marketing**
The Premier Beef Marketing program was established in Missouri to help small groups of beef cow producers form a marketing cooperative in order to market their calves to a better advantage. The calves are commingled, sorted into uniform lots, backgrounded and then sold in pot-load lots.
**NEMO Beef Marketers** were organized in the 4 county areas around Hunnewell and Monroe City. They have 12 members and since 1999 they have marketed over 5000 head of cattle together. Six members of this group are from Shelby County. When calves are sold as finished cattle the producers get complete performance and carcass data to use for improvement in their herds. The regional livestock specialist works closely with the group in commingling the calves and using the data collected.

**4-H Livestock Judging**

Qualified a Junior and Senior team at the Marion Co. 4-H judging day to compete at state competition in Columbia. After county teams were selected, I worked with the teams by holding training sessions for them and then attended the state contest with them. Junior team finished 2nd of 25 teams. Senior team finished 1st of 25 teams.

The Senior team then traveled to Louisville, KY to participate in the National 4-H livestock judging competition where they placed 8th out of 29 teams.

**Ag. Info Newsletter**

The Ag Info Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication with contributions by Extension Specialists Alix Carpenter, Karisha Devlin, Zac Erwin, and Al Kennett. It contains articles on current issues in farm management, livestock, and agronomy. Livestock articles focused on how beef cattle producers can implement strategies to stay profitable during weak economic periods.

**Show-Me Quality Assurance**

All 4-H members enrolled in food animal projects including beef, sheep, swine, dairy cattle, meat and dairy goats, rabbits and poultry must complete the appropriate level of MSQA certification to be considered a 4-H member in good standing in that project, in addition to other local requirements. The regional livestock specialist worked closely with county 4-H staff and conducted four area SMQA meetings, which 58 Shelby Co. youth, plus parents, attended these sessions, to learn about overall quality assurance with their meat-product related project animals, including animal housing, welfare, health care, marketing, and appropriate handling.
Business Development Specialist : Charles Holland

As entrepreneurs and innovators, Missouri’s small businesses are becoming a more diverse group that continues to make the state’s economy productive. There are approximately 500,000 small businesses in Missouri. Nearly 98 percent of all businesses with employees are categorized as small businesses. In assisting the owners and managers of those businesses, MU Extension contributes to a county’s economic development through growth in jobs, sales, innovation, technology development and commercialization.

In Shelby County, during 2009, business development program specialists and business counselors with MU Extension, Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers (MO SBTDC), Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (MO PTAC), Missouri Environmental Program, Missouri Career Options Project, and the Missouri Market Development program served 8 people and their companies with business start-up and management counseling, training, and other assistance. In addition, entrepreneurs and business owners in Shelby County reported the following economic impact and activity as a result of the services provided by the MU Extension Business Development Program:

- New jobs: 13
- Sales increases:
- Government contracts:
- New businesses: 3
- Jobs retained:
- Loans and investments in business: $613,540
- Businesses turned around or failures prevented:
- Acquired assets: $15,000,000
- Clients/companies receiving business counseling: 8
- Business training attendees and conference participants: 3

Overall, the University of Missouri’s Business Development Programs (BDP) served 29,423 people and their businesses state-wide. The total impact for all businesses assisted by the BDP was:

- New jobs: 7,209
- Sales increases: $135,921,024
- Government contracts: $256,800,000
- New businesses: 273
- Jobs retained: 2,913
- Loans and investments in business: $138,823,077
- Acquired assets: $63,048,551
- Investment in commercialization: $20,007,617 in SBIR/STTR or research proposals submitted with $55,120,613 awards received
- Clients/companies receiving business counseling: 4,374
- 

Business training attendees and conference participants: 25,049 Overall, the University of Missouri’s Business Development Programs (BDP) served 29,423 people and their businesses state-wide. The total impact for all businesses assisted by the BDP was:
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Business training attendees and conference participants: 25,049

The business development faculty contributing to these business successes are from the programs identified above. These staff have regional and statewide assignments and work with businesses in all counties across the state.

**THE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM DELIVERY NETWORK INCLUDES**
Business Development Specialists headquartered at University of Missouri Extension centers; centers located on the University of Missouri campuses at Columbia, Kansas City, St. Louis and Rolla; and centers at most of the state universities across Missouri. The named programs delivered through this network include:

**Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers (MO SBTDC)** – Funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration, this award is matched on the local level by state university hosts and private sector partners. Services include individualized business counseling and a wide variety of educational opportunities. One of the products offered through those centers is the MoFAST SBIR/STTR assistance. Specialists in this area work with university faculty and other innovators to win awards in support of the commercialization of technology.

**Missouri Procurement Assistance Centers (MO PTAC)** -- Funded by the U.S. Defense Logistics Agency, this program helps businesses win government contracts for a wide range of products and services.

**Missouri Market Development Program** – This program, which is funded at by the Environmental Improvement and Energy Resources Agency via the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, helps business owners find markets for recycled materials and helps other businesses in securing funding for manufacture of new goods using those recycled materials.

**Career Options** – Improving individual capacity is the focus of the MU Extension Career Options program, which is funded through a partnership with the Missouri Department of Economic Development Workforce Development unit. This program assists displaced workers and others in many ways through the exploration of business ownership and career repositioning following company closings, layoffs and other employment changes.

**Missouri Environmental Program** -- Showing businesses how to save money by reducing waste, understanding regulations and using recycled materials.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**
For further information, Contact:
Charles Holland
Business Development Specialist
Monroe County Extension Center
Paris, Missouri
hollandca@missouri.edu
Phone: 660.327.4158
http://extension.missouri.edu

Visit our business development program website at www.missouribusiness.net
DAVID HILL, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

Nonprofit Organization Support in the County

Grant Funding Source Awareness

Bi-weekly summaries of grants available to enhance community improvement efforts of area non-profits, local government entities and civic groups e-mailed to contact persons or office in each county and community on request. Known multiplier from current list of 325 grows to about 1700 contacts regionally in the Tri-States.

Switchboards in Shelby County are the MU Extension Center, Bethel Colony, Clarence and Shelbina Development Offices, Shelbina Arts Council, Shelby County Economic Development Council, Shelbina Democrat and 1 Citizen volunteer for any group interested plus other public entities and special services districts via the Mark Twain Council of Governments

Salt River Community Health Center

This 30 month old venture offers medical care, dental and mental health services, primarily for residents of Clark, Lewis, Marion, Monroe, Pike, Ralls, and Shelby County locations in Hannibal and Kahoka. Improvements have been made to both facilities and staff added. Federally qualified “look-a-like status” is being pursued and SRCHC is waiting to hear back from the federal government while seeking other funding to meet the needs of the growing patient load. This is especially critical in these tough economic times in the region.

Jim Meyer is involved continuing as a board member of the Salt River Community Health Center. At the present, the board is focusing on sustaining the clinic and expanding its services. This year they have applied for a Impact to the community has been huge. Patients received health care services which previously were unaffordable.

David Hill is on the finance advisory committee and does research to support the board and staff develop organizationally to improve access to health care. SRHC’s focuses on uninsured and underinsured but anyone eligible for services.

Three graduates received $500 grants as a jump start toward utilizing skills learned in the class for neighborhood improvement projects written up during the series.

Step-Up-To-Leadership

Fifteen South Shelby High School students and their teacher completed the 12 session NECAC funded series designed for community minded people wanting to make a difference as a non-profit board member, including:

- People who are willing to assume the responsibilities of board membership,
- People who want to work well in groups and develop strong working partnerships,
- People who want to be good leaders.

Course goals:

- Understand board responsibilities, parliamentary procedure, how to run a community meeting, fund development and public speaking tips,
- Grants resources prospecting and fund-raising options,
- Understand themselves and others and how to build strong relationships,
- Learn in a safe and fun environment

Extension Field Faculty Supporting: Darla Campbell (AG), David Hill (CD), Wendy Brumbaugh (HES), Debbie Whiston (HES), Karisha Devlin (AG), Charles Holland (BD), Chris Shoemaker (BD/SBDC).
**North East Missouri Rural Entrepreneur Initiative**

Six Northeast Missouri counties: Clark, Knox, Lewis, Schuyler, Scotland and Shelby. Have partnered with University of Missouri Extension develop strategies and outcomes toward their desire to enhance the regional’s economy. This project is funded in part by a United States Department of Agriculture Rural Business Opportunities Grant (RBOG).

**Extension Field Faculty Supporting:** Darla Campbell (AG), David Hill (CD), Wendy Brumbaugh (HES), Debbie Whiston (HES), Karisha Devlin (AG), Charles Holland (BD), Chris Shoemaker (BD/ SBDC).

**National Issues Forum**
National Issues Forums is a non partisan nationwide network of locally sponsored public forums for the consideration of public policy issues. The topic for these forums was the educational achievement gap. Sessions: Canton, Edina, Kahoka and materials and a survey as part of the Shelby County 2009 EXCEL Leadership Development course.

Audiences: Parent, Grandparent, Foster Grand Parent , Employer, Community Member and Educational Policy Advisors to seek input and ideas to help find local solutions to America’s educational achievement gap.

Method: Gathering with others in a community and MU Extension faculty to discuss, deliberate and frame some possible solutions for recommendations to state legislators and Missouri’s congressional delegations. Three options were offered for consideration to get the deliberations started:

- **Approach One: Raise Expectations and Demand Accountability**
- **Approach Two: Close the Spending Gap**
- **Approach Three: Address the Root Causes**

National Issues Forums (NIF) is a nonpartisan, nationwide network of locally sponsored public forums for the consideration of public policy issues. It is rooted in the simple notion that people need to come together to reason and talk — to deliberate about common problems. Indeed, democracy requires an ongoing deliberative public dialogue. MU Extension faculty are facilitating the sessions in Northeast Missouri.

**Business Development via RBOG**

Business Classes – The University of Missouri Extension Business Development Program and the Missouri Small Business and Technology Development Centers (SBTDC) offered two educational opportunities in the counties of Lewis, Clark, Shelby, Knox, Scotland and Schuyler.

The Business Development Program offered a series of training workshops to new and potential small business owners in the six-county region. The training focused on starting a new business, writing business plans, business financials and marketing.
Members & Volunteers took part in:

- 4-H club meetings
- 4-H Council
- Shelby County Youth Fair
- Livestock Judging
- Achievement Day Demonstrations
- 4-H Camp
- State 4-H Congress
- 4-H Teen Conference
- Recognition Night
- Space Camp
- Clover Kid Camps
- National 4-H Week
- Missouri State Fair
- And much, much more!

The Shelby County 4-H Program currently has (5) 4-H Clubs. Total numbers are 150 members. 68 leaders and 84 families enrolled in the community club model under the direction of Lesley Daniel, Youth Program Assistant and Don Nicholson, 4-H Youth Development Specialist.

4-H MEMBERS LEARN AT 4-H CAMPS

4-H Camp is one of the many highlights of the 4-H year for local youth. Camp is planned, conducted and evaluated by 4-H Youth Development Specialist Don Nicholson and Patty Fisher, with the involvement and assistance of about twenty teenage Camp Counselors. Over 150 youth and teens take part in one of the two 4-H camps. 4-H Teen Camp was held May 27-30 and 4-H Jr. Camp was held on May 30 - June 2, 2009; camp was held at Camp Inlow in Palmyra, MO. Camp involved lots of activities and fun. Activities were: swimming, life skills, games, singing, workshops, and much more. We had 13 members attend Junior 4-H Camp, nine attend 4-H Teen Camp.

HATCHING CHICKS

Shelby Count 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 Enrichment program in Shelby County is the Hatching Chicks. There were 176 participants. The Shelbina Villa also participated in the Embryology program, there were 34 that participated.

New Members

We had a total of 51 new 4-H members this last 4-H year.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK

During National 4-H Week there were many activities planned, each of the 6, 4-H Clubs in Shelby County participated. Some of the activities were: members wrote 4-H articles for the paper, decorated windows around the towns, 4-H T-shirt day, Scarecrow contest and the Commissioners signed the proclamation, we also had a balloon launch that day. We had 30 attend.
4-H VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers create, support and are a part of the 4-H Community. National statistics suggest that the average volunteer contributes 43.5 hours per year. Valuing their time at $19.51 per hour, based on average Missouri incomes, the contribution of Shelby County 4-H volunteers was worth more the $72,225.00 in 2008.

SHELBY COUNTY 4-H AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community Service is one of the major components of the Shelby County 4-H program. The importance of Community Service is one area the 4-H program strives to instill in our youth and families. Here are just a few of the community service 4-H club projects; Trash pickup, Sponsor a Christmas Angel, Christmas Caroling, Collecting recycled items for the Life Skills Center, Made cards for Meals on Wheels, Wrote letters to Military servicemen and much, much, more.

GOING THE DISTANCE

Going the Distance is a challenge program. Don Nicholson and Lesley Daniel presented this program for the third time in Shelby County. On September 23rd we went to Shelbina Elementary for the fifth grade in the morning and then went to Clarence Elementary fifth grade in the afternoon. This was the first year that North Shelby 5th grade participated. There were 63 students that participated all together. The value of “Going the Distance” comes from the full participation of the students in the activities and discussions that are held. To get the most out of the program, students need to come with an open mind and a willingness to be involved.

GOING THE DISTANCE
Participants demonstrating team involvement.

CLOVER KID CAMP

Clover Kid Camp is always a big success for youngsters 5-7. We have two Clover Kid Day Camps a year, one was in the spring and one in the fall. The spring camp was “Let’s Plant Seeds”, and the fall one was “Cowboy Round Up”. The day included: Story time, crafts, games, refreshments and prizes. There were 17 Clover Kids who attended each camp and 9 Volunteers.
**Local 4-H Team Does Well At National Contest**

A local 4-H livestock judging team represented Missouri well at the recent National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest held at Louisville, KY.

The team was made up of two 4-H members from both Ralls and Shelby Counties. Team members were Kasey Gatson, Vandalia; Garth Gatson, Vandalia; Kathryn Coon, Bethel; and Miriam Martin, Shelbina. This team had previously won the Missouri 4-H Livestock Judging contest held in Columbia which gave them the right to represent Missouri at the national contest.

There were 29 state teams at the national contest. The Missouri team placed 7th in swine judging, 9th in beef and 12th in sheep which resulted in their being the 8th high team in the contest. Being in the top ten at the national contest is a great accomplishment according to Al Kennett and Zac Erwin, Extension Livestock Specialists who went with the team to the contest.

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**Team Picture**

L-R Front row – Kasey Gatson, Garth Gatson, Kathryn Coon, Miriam Martin

Back row – Al Kennett, Zac Erwin

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**STAFF SERVING SHELBY COUNTY FROM OTHER LOCATIONS IN 2009**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Headquartered County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Soneeta Grogan</td>
<td>Regional Director</td>
<td>Region</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruth Jeffries</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Smyser</td>
<td>Family Nutrition Education Program Director</td>
<td>Marion</td>
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<td>David Hill</td>
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<td>Leanne Spengler</td>
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<td>Pike</td>
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<td>Karisha Devlin</td>
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