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.
Extension’s Program Guidance Comes From You

The Stone County Extension council and staff would like to thank the county commissioners for their support and funding for programs during this past year. In turn, the council and staff remain committed to improving people’s lives by helping them meet the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century with research-based education and information. We constantly are looking at the present and future for meeting the needs of county residents, but also are proud of the fact that this is the 83rd year of service to this county with innovative high quality programs.

University of Missouri Extension is a partnership of the University of Missouri campuses, Lincoln University, the people of Missouri through county extension councils, and the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Our mission is to "serve Missouri by extending the unbiased research-based knowledge and problem-solving resources of the University of Missouri and Lincoln University to focus on high-priority needs of people throughout the state." 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. A program plan developed with the assistance of Stone County residents continues to be implemented and provides direction for extension programs.

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 Stone County.

Submitted by,

Stacy Bale
Stacey Bale
Council Secretary

Jerry Youngblood
Jerry Youngblood
Council Chairman

Tim Schnakenberg
Tim Schnakenberg
County Program Director
December 2010

Dear Members of the County Commission and the Community:
When you invest public funds, you want to know that those funds are making a real difference – that the program has value to the public. And in these tough economic times, you especially are interested in programs that create and retain jobs. Fortunately, that is exactly the case with your investment in University of Missouri Extension programs.

Here are just a few examples:

The **FastTrac NewVenture** course creates new jobs by providing tools to those who want to start their own business. Entrepreneurs determine the economic feasibility of their business concept, design a business model that matches their personal vision, and create a business plan to communicate the opportunity to investors.

**Pasture-based Dairies**, modeled on MU Extension’s rotational grazing systems, have generated 1,100 jobs and added more than $124 million to Missouri’s economy.

The Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis works with the Missouri Department of Economic Development to provide an [online career exploration tool](#), which provides information about promising employment arenas.

**Eat Well Be Well with Diabetes** provides practical information and skills to self-manage the disease and promote optimum health. Employees who have better control of their blood glucose levels have reduced rates of job absenteeism.

**4-H science, engineering, math and technology projects**, such as robotics and computing, are preparing youth for jobs of the future. Teens are learning how to be team players, to be lifelong learners, and to approach problem-solving with confidence.

**Leadership education** for steelworkers, pipe fitters and other union workers prepares shop stewards and others to understand how global issues affect today’s workforce and how to secure jobs using practices that reflect joint employer-employee goals.

MU Extension programs are tailored to meet local needs. Visit your local extension center or go online to learn more about the MU Extension programs that create and retain jobs in your community.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Ouart
Vice Provost and Director
Staff Members at Stone County’s University of Missouri Extension Center

JoEtta Bowling
Office Manager

Tim Schnakenberg
Agronomy Specialist
County Program Director

Amanda Smigiel
FNEP Nutrition Program Associate

Lesa King
Youth Program Associate

Regional Staff Serving Stone County

Karla Deaver
Youth Specialist
Mt. Vernon

Renette Wardlow
Human Development Specialist
Ozark

Annette Fitzgerald
Consumer / Family Economics Specialist
Forsyth

Tammy Roberts
Nutrition Specialist
Lamar

Eldon Cole
Livestock Specialist
Mt. Vernon

Tony Rickard
Dairy Specialist
Cassville

Gordon Carriker
Ag Business Specialist
Ozark

Nellie Lamers
Tri-Lakes TCRC Information Tech. Assoc.
Reeds Spring
Regional Staff Serving Stone County

Bob Schultheis
Natural Resources Engineering Specialist
Marshfield

Patrick Byers
Horticulture Specialist
Springfield

Wayne Dietrich
Community Development Specialist
Forsyth

Jodie Pennington
Small Ruminant Specialist
Lincoln University
Neosho

Sarah Becker
Horticulture Specialist
Lincoln University
Mt. Vernon

Chrystal Irons
Business Development Specialist
Forsyth

David Burton
Civic Communication Specialist
Springfield

Jeff Barber
Housing & Environmental Design Specialist—Springfield

Amanda Marney
Agriculture Preparedness Specialist
Mt. Vernon

Administration and Support

Rick Mammen
SW Regional Director
Springfield

Jay Chism
Acting SW Regional Director
Springfield

Sarah Grubaugh
Regional Administrative Assistant
Springfield

Pam Duitsman
FNEP Coordinator
Springfield

Tony DeLong
Statewide County Council Coordinator
Reeds Spring
4-H Youth Development

Missouri 4-H, University of Missouri Extension's youth development program, helps to create opportunities for young people to be valued, contributing members of their community. Providing opportunities for youth to develop positive self-esteem, leadership skills, decision-making skills, citizenship and practical life-skills are objectives of the extension youth program. Missouri 4-H connects kids with caring adults for learning-by-doing experience in organized clubs, enrichment programs, special-interest groups, camps and school-aged child care programs. To learn more about 4-H -- the world’s largest youth-serving organization -- visit http://mo4h.missouri.edu.

Impact in 2010

4-H Helps Young People to Become Productive Citizens
One out of every four Missourians between the ages of 5 and 18 participated in a Missouri 4-H program in 2010, learning leadership, citizenship and life-skills.

4-H’ers on Positive Growth Trajectory
In recent years studies have suggested a link between positive youth development – especially programs that go beyond simple extracurricular activities to offer three foundational features of effective youth-serving programs (Lerner, 2004; Blum, 2003; Roth & Brooks-Gunn, 2003). These are:
• Positive and sustained relationships between youth and adults
• Activities that build important life skills

Opportunities for youth to use these life skills as both participants and as leaders in valued community activities. Programs having these features may be termed youth development programs (Lerner, 2004; Roth & Brooks-Gunn, 2003). To better understand how programs for youth contribute to positive youth development, National 4-H Council sponsored the 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development. To date, over 6,000 adolescents from 34 states responded to surveys assessing positive youth development. Missouri 4-H joined the national study three years ago.

Active 4-H’ers excel—Connecting kids to caring adults
The ground-breaking national study confirmed what we already knew: Kids who are active 4-H member have more caring adults in their lives, are more likely to engage in science programs and excel in leadership and volunteer service. Missouri active 4-H members over the past three years identify more adult mentors in their lives than non-4-H youth or youth who engage in 4-H opportunities less than two times a month.

Building important life skills
Life skills are defined in a variety of ways. 4-H, in recent years, has given special attention to youth interest, attitudes and engagement in science, engineering and computer technology. Active 4-H members spend almost ten times more of their out-of-school time engaged in science-based activities than their non-4-H peers. Project work builds important life skills. Building life skills in science for girls is particularly important due to their under-representation in science, engineering and technology fields. Young women active in Missouri 4-H are more interested in science probably because they have hands on experience doing science related programs than their non-4-H female peers.
Valued community leadership and service
Community service is integral to positive youth development programs. Missouri young people who are 4-H participants report significantly more leadership experiences and higher scores on internalizing the value of service that their non-4-H peers.

4-H Offers Opportunities to Experience the United States and the World
Three Stone County 4-H members had the opportunity of a lifetime this past year. Due to their involvement with the horse project, they were selected to perform with the Easy Riders Drill Team at the World Equestrian Games held for the first time in its history in the United States. The WEG, as it is referred to, is the equivalent of the Olympics in the equestrian world. It was held at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky over a two week period in September and October. There were contestants from over 60 countries there to compete in various disciplines.

Participating were Ashley Painter, Bit by Bit 4-H Club and Cody, of Aurora; Jessica Lane, Wire Road Wranglers 4-H Club and Scooby, of Crane, and Will King, Spring Creek 4-H Club and Ty, of Crane. They spent twelve months practicing and preparing for this event. They rode all through the winter of 2010 and for hours during the sweltering summer. They also performed at Equifest in Wichita, Kansas in February, 2010 and performed locally at many events in preparation for the WEG.

While there, the drill team performed daily in front of the crowds. They were selected to be the final act in the closing ceremonies. They were able to watch many of the competitions that were being held in their off-time. They also met many people from foreign countries, several other countries had their horses stalled in the same barn as the drill teams’. It was truly an experience in hard work, perseverance, and team work building skills, not to mention horsemanship that they will remember for the rest of their lives.

These were not the only 4-H members to travel this past year with their involvement in the horse project. Nathan Carr and Jacob Ray, two members of the Spring Creek 4-H Club went on the week long Missouri 4-H Equine Tour. They, along with 48 other 4-H members from across our state went to several locations in Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming. They toured the University of Colorado’s equine facilities, a dude ranch, Meredith Hodges mule and donkey training ranch, and several other sites. They enjoyed the trip so much, that they are both planning to go again in 2011.

Horses also figured heavily into the fund-raising activities that the Stone County Leaders Council and three of the county 4-H clubs participated in. During the four nights of the Crane Broiler Festival, 4-H members walked the Sparkle Party Ponies giving pony rides to children. Those clubs that took part were the LUC Boys Ranch 4-H Club, the Wire Road Wranglers 4-H Club and the Spring Creek 4-H Club. On Saturday afternoon and evening of the Festival, various members from the clubs worked for the benefit of the Leaders Council funds. We gave 375 pony rides over the four evenings. A total of $798 went into the three clubs accounts and to the county 4-H fund.
Regional Achievement Day Results
Regional 4-H Achievement Day serves as a testing ground for members to improve their skills in five areas of personal presentations and decision making. These include: Public Speaking, Fashion Revue, Project Demonstrations, Project Judging and Personal Appearance. The contest was held in Springfield in July. Results from Stone County participants are as follows:

Public Speaking—14 and over
Ashley Painter - Silver Ribbon

Member Judging Categories:
Arts and Crafts—13 and under
Holly Thompson—Silver Ribbon

Photography—13 and under
Jessica Lane—Gold Certificate and Gold Ribbon

Shooting Sports—13 and under
Lee Davis—Silver Certificate

Members of the LUC Boys Ranch 4-H Club in Lampe. Joseph, C.J., Nick and Stephen are shown with their Sparkle Party Ponies.

Shooting Sports Was A Popular Project
The archery project led by Lee Hultz had several members competing at both the regional and state contests this year. Regionals were held at the Andy Dalton Shooting Range near Bois D Arc. State competition was held near Columbia. Those attending the shoots were Abigail Hultz, Christa Hultz, Luke Gardner, Dalten Contreras, Lee Davis, Jordan Painter, Will King, Jack Lambert and Wayne Spainhour.

4–H Members Receive Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Youth Grants
Two Stone County 4-H members wrote SARE youth grants this past year and were awarded money to do their research. Ashley Painter, Bit by Bit 4-H Club and Will King, Spring Creek 4-H Club each wrote a grant involving work with poultry. Ashley’s proposal was to use ducks and geese to help with weeds and pests in her existing raspberry patch. Will’s grant was an expansion of his first year’s grant work on raising and marketing pasture-raised...
heritage breed turkeys. He also added a small orchard of disease resistant trees to his project that the poultry will help reduce pest numbers in.

Both members gave presentations on their work at the National Small Farmers Conference held in Columbia, Missouri. Ashley gave a Power Point presentation and was approached by two professors of agriculture at the University of Missouri who were impressed with her work. Will spoke about his work in raising his turkeys and gave a demonstration on what to look for in selecting birds to keep for breeding stock. He made two contacts in the St. Louis market while there and sold all of his market birds. They have both submitted proposals for the next year of SARE youth grants.

$6500 Grant Received for the Robotics Project
The Bit by Bit 4-H Club started preparing for a robotics project. They met at the Marionville Public Library to have access to enough computers. The younger members work on Legos robotics kits, (they have four kits for their use) and the older members will be doing FIRST competitions. They have been awarded a grant from NASA in the amount of $6,500. All of this money went directly to pay for their entry into the FIRST competition. They are currently building their FIRST robot that they will use in the competition this spring.

Other 4-H Activities
Several members attended 4-H Camp held at Camp Smokey. We held the annual Livestock and Horse Show at the Spring Creek Saddle Club in Hurley, which was well attended, again. We also had members with exhibits and livestock at the Ozark Empire Fair and the Missouri State Fair. As in years past, there were several club activities that give members a chance to give back to their communities and to help others.
The purpose of the agriculture program is to provide information and to make recommendations that will help farmers, landowners and agribusinesses apply this knowledge to improve farm profitability and environmental stewardship. Academic support for this program comes from the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and county, state and federal governments.

Impact in 2010

Farm Producers Improve their Management Skills During the Regional Hay School
In December, forty-five livestock and hay producers attended the first regional hay school in Crane. Regional Specialists from around the Ozarks taught for six hours during this non-credit course, covering all aspects of hay production. Topics included forages for Southwest Missouri Hay, quality issues, hay testing, fertility, economics of hay production, hay day management, balage, hay storage and feeding management and cattle and horse nutrition. The theme of the school was “Hay that Pays”. The workshop was specifically designed for livestock and horse producers who already own hay equipment or have hay custom harvested on their land. Based on the evaluation results, 72 percent of the participants rated the program as outstanding 25 percent rated it as above average. When asked if the school was worth their time and money, 100 percent said “yes”. One person commented, “Wow! What a value! The quality and knowledge of presenters was great.” Other comments made on the evaluation included: “I was shocked at the diversity of participants and education level of students. The common denominator to me is desire to learn.” “Topics were well chosen” “It was great! Do more soon!”

80th Annual Livestock and Forage Conference
About sixty people attended the annual Stone County Livestock and Forage Conference in Crane in February. This conference, formerly known as the Soils and Crops Conference has its roots in the county since 1931. The program focused on several issues facing farmers in 2010. Topics included direct marketing of ag products, low-cost cow calf production, keys to a profitable forage program and the potential impact of proposed Cap and Trade Legislation on agriculture. During Eldon Cole’s discussion on cost of owning cattle, he asked the group what their average cost was to keep a cow in a year’s time. The exercise showed their average estimate of costs was $296. The range was from $100 to $475. University of Missouri Extension budget figures for a cow-calf operation in south Missouri reveal a $700 to $750 cost. A Kansas State review of their 60 ranches in their records program show the middle 1/3 of their participants had an average of $669 against the cow. It’s likely that Stone countians may need to re-evaluate their costs of keeping a cow for a year.
7th Annual Stone County Dairy Day
The Stone County Dairy Day was offered to area dairy producers in February in Crane. This year there were about 40 people in attendance. The goal is to offer an educational event specifically tailored to dairy producers and their needs in Stone County and beyond. Topics covered during the day included simplifying your forage program, what we learned in 2009, dairy market outlook and current issues in herd health. Ninety-four percent of the participants in an evaluation rated the program as outstanding or above average. The program was sponsored by FCS Financial and Land O’ Lakes Purina Feed this year.

Pesticide Environmental and Safety Training
Consumers demand pest free food, however, society continues to want more control of pesticides. People are made more aware of pesticide uses and possible problems as the result of increased news media coverage in a number of areas including chemicals and water quality. One national poll of farmers conducted by the Gallup Organization shows water quality is considered the top farm environmental problem nationally and “safer” pesticide applications are seen as part of solving the problem. In March 13 pesticide applicators were certified at a Private Applicators Training held in Galena by Tim Schnakenberg. About fifteen more were certified individually at the extension center using a video training series. This process is something they must be retrained on every five years in order to maintain a pesticide license to purchase and use Restricted-Use pesticides.

AFGC Hay Tours
The American Forage and Grassland Council National Conference was held in Springfield June 21-23. One day of the conference was dedicated to tours and about 100 people attended the hay tour which visited Stone, Lawrence and Barry Counties. The Stone County stop was at the Jim and Byron Stine farm at Union City. Jim discussed his approach to raising and marketing hay commercially in the region. Participants came from all over the country to attend this event. One couple came from Canada to be there.

Consultations Provide an Opportunity to do Direct Teaching on Farm and Garden Problems
The community has come to depend on extension to provide answers to both common and uncommon issues that arise. Farmers and gardeners telephone and visit the extension center often requesting information. We serve as a window to University of Missouri agricultural research. Residents quite frequently will call extension specialists out to their farm or home if they have a specific problem to be addressed. This year issues related to weed control in pastures and row crops, soil fertility, planting practices...
and pest control were addressed. A steady number of random garden questions were addressed season-long.

**Soil Fertility and Nutrient Management**
With increased prices of fertilizer today, farmers continue to need information based on unbiased fertility testing and research such as that provided by University of Missouri Extension. There were around 188 soil tests handled for farmers and homeowners in Stone County in 2010. This service has become more important for people to be educated on where their grassland fertility level stands prior to fertilizer application.

**Beef Production Programming**
Wesley Tucker, agricultural business specialist and Eldon Cole, livestock specialist teamed up to give a program on finding a niche market for Scotch Highland cattle at a field day at Jerry Delcour’s and Janet Melton’s place near Hurley. There farm is called the Hairy Cow Farm. Ken Ortman of Lampe purchased Show-Me-Select heifers at each of the sales held in May and November at Joplin Regional Stockyards. The SMS program is an educational effort led by Extension to teach new technology in genetic selection and development practices for beef heifers. Breeders who participate in the on-farm performance testing program hold two bull sales a year at the Springfield Livestock Marketing Center. They are allowed to consign bulls that have met minimum expected progeny difference (EPD) values. No one in Stone county is currently on the program but Ben Garbee of Crane bought bulls at the sales.
Stone county farmers received livestock educational information during the year in these ways: a monthly Beef Newsletter, timely news releases, the KOMA Beef Conference at Joplin Regional Stockyards, the Spring Forage Conference at Springfield, monthly Southwest Missouri Cattlemen’s Association meetings, grazing schools, Southwest Research Center FFA and public Field Days, personal contact via farm, business visits, email and telephone.

**Dairy Production Programming**
Average mailbox price for milk in 2010 rebounded significantly from that experienced in 2009, with a few months up almost $5.00 per hundredweight. This was most welcomed by county producers after going through a year in which simply breaking even would have been very welcomed. During mid 2010 milk futures for 2011 were very weak due to higher than anticipated production at that time, but as the year came to an end, February 2011 futures had risen almost $5.00 per hundred. Even with historic corn and soybean futures if the milk futures hold, it will still be a profitable year. In addition to the Stone County Dairy Day, there are numerous opportunities for dairymen to participate in educational programs. Monthly meetings were hosted in the region for the dairy grazier group. Topics included irrigation for pastures, spring weather effect on grass growth, heat and drought effects, dairy research at the Southwest Center, contract raising of dairy heifers and fresh cow care. The 41st annual Monett Dairy Day was also offered for area dairymen. The annual Dairy Profit Seminar was held in
February with 51 in attendance at Mt. Vernon. The focus of the program was to look at what happened in 2009 as far as prices were concerned and how they should manage their business in 2010. Producers were particularly encouraged to focus on reducing debt incurred the previous year and postpone any non-essential capital expenditures for the year.

**Fall Brush Spray Demonstration**
Tim Schnakenberg conducted a fall brush spray demonstration on two of Bob Scott’s farms at Crossroads and Elsey in October. Brush was sprayed with a common spray mix ahead of frost to determine the effectiveness at this time of year. An evaluation of the spray will be conducted in the spring of 2011.

**News Releases Keep Farm Producers Up to Date**
In addition to one-on-one consultation with farm producers, landowners and homeowners, Stone County residents benefited from news releases in local newspapers from Extension. The Southwest Regional News Service is a primary mode of getting news releases to local media outlets. Some of the topics that Tim Schnakenberg wrote or participated in during 2010 dealt with converting fields away from fescue, managing winter forage, the threat of fall armyworms, buying hay for horses, ryegrass root rot problems and a piece on agritourism. The horse hay topic was picked up by the Brownfield network and the USDA News Service in Washington D.C and radio interviews were conducted. Many other topics were covered by other specialists not headquartered in Stone County through the Southwest Region News Service. Several specialists also provided KOLR 10 news interviews during the 11 a.m. news slots.

**Soil and Water Conservation District Involvement**
Tim Schnakenberg serves as Secretary on the Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors. He assists the district in the educational component of the district, including the Crane Creek AgNPS SALT project efforts. Efforts from this program provides financial incentives for conservation practices that lead to millions of tons of soil saved each year and cost savings to landowners to put in these practices. Tim also serves on the Lawrence County SWCD board.

**Grassland Management Workshop**
The Soil and Water Conservation District hosted the Grassland Management Workshop in March at Crane. Extension was closely involved in this program by moderating the program and providing some of the speakers, including Eldon Cole, Livestock Specialist and Dr. Rich Crawford, Superintendent of the Southwest Center. Topics discussed were forage utilization, grazing management, fescue toxicosis and ruminant nutrition. There were thirty-five Stone County farmers who attended this event.

**Grazing Schools Teach Farmers How to Be More Efficient**
MU Extension, Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Natural Resources Conservation Service have worked together since 1991 to offer grazing schools around the state. In 2010 there were six schools hosted in the region that Stone County residents could attend. Several of our farmers attended the Ozark and Mt. Vernon schools. These two to three day schools allow farmers to think differently about how they manage their pastures and have become a very effective tool.

**Services Address Special Needs on the Farm**
The Stone County Extension Center is a place for homeowners and farmers to receive services such as plant disease identification, hay testing and manure analysis through University of Missouri and private labs. Residents also receive order forms from our office for conservation tree plantings each year through the Missouri Department of Conservation. Regional agronomists trap insects that could cause major issues in area crops. These trap counts are posted on the university’s IPM Pest Monitoring Network at [http://ipm.missouri.edu/](http://ipm.missouri.edu/). Farmers can subscribe to the network and receive pest alerts when the trap counts reach high levels, alerting them to scout their crops closely.
Gardening has become an important activity of many Southwest Missourians. Gardening is an excellent way to beautify our landscape and provide a healthy activity for the homeowner. It also is a huge industry in our region and impacts water quality. To help address the general horticulture and gardening needs of the public, a thriving Master Gardener program is present in Stone and Taney Counties. Master Gardeners are University of Missouri trained volunteers who assist with organized horticulture education programs for the gardening public. As of December 31, there were 90 active Master Gardeners in the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks group. Of these there are 51 who reside in Stone County, 31 residing in Taney County, four in Barry County, two in Christian County, one in Greene County and one who resides in Boone County, Arkansas.

Master Gardener Total Impact
The Master Gardeners of the Ozarks had a very eventful year in 2010. A total of 4,298 hours were reported in 2010 by fifty-six Master Gardeners who served the entire year and reported. They reported making 3,193 contacts with persons in the community in 2010. The first-year Master Gardeners are required to provide 30 hours of service and seasoned Master Gardeners are only required to provide 20 hours. This year the Master Gardeners each averaged 76 hours of service. According to the latest figures from the Independent Sector organization, the hourly wage for Missouri volunteer hours currently is $18.70. If you put a value on the education and service hours provided to the community, the value totals over $80,300 worth of volunteer time! The activities of Master Gardeners in this area were coordinated by Tim Schnakenberg.

Organization and Structure
The Master Gardeners were lead this year by David Smith, President, Sharon Burgess, Vice-President, Dorothy Brunskill and Elaine Fischer, Co-Secretaries, and Alice Troyke, Treasurer. The Master Gardeners met monthly, alternating between Branson and Reeds Spring and the executive committee met frequently between meetings. Kathryn Kufahl represented Southwest Missouri on the State Master Gardener Board. A special committee was organized in 2010, headed by RJ Jacob, to provide $2,000 in grant funds for Master Gardener projects. As a result funds were distributed that provided a boost to the Blue Star Memorial project and the Kimberling Area Library Children’s Garden.

Interest in the Garden Tour Was Strong for 2010
Master Gardeners offered their second garden tour in June. Chaired by Sharon Burgess, the tour attracted participants from a wide area featured the gardens of eight homes in Stonebridge Village. Over one-hundred people participated in this event and gained gardening ideas that can be taken back to their homes. Funds from the event were raised to pay for scholarships and to purchase signs for Master Gardener functions.

Record-Breaking Turnout for the Spring Gardening Workshop
Nearly 170 people participated in the 7th annual Spring Gardening Workshop on a cold March Saturday in Branson. This was the largest crowd recorded at one of our Master
Gardener public events. Participants learned about gardening in limited spaces, plant propagation, organic gardening at home, herbs and English gardens in the Ozarks. Eighty-one percent of the evaluation respondents rated the program as outstanding or above average. Some of the comments on the evaluation mentioned the following: “This was a great workshop! Very informative, great facility, wonderful food. I enjoyed the speakers.” “This was my first! I was impressed with the presentation and look forward to attending the next one.” “It was a wonderful experience. Excellent speakers. Really enjoyed the day. Great value.”

Fall Gardening Workshop Addressed Topics That Were on the Minds of Gardeners
In October, the Master Gardeners hosted their popular Fall Gardening Workshop in Kimberling City. There were 114 people who attended the program from Stone and Taney Counties. Topics covered garden pruning, improving Ozark soils, growing perennials, planting for fall color and bringing the garden in for the fall. One participant later emailed, “Wow, what a wonderful use of time on Saturday. So many informative speakers. I felt like I was drinking from a fire hose.”

Master Gardener Training offered in Branson
A Master Gardener training was conducted in the fall for people interested in being trained to be a Master Gardener. This program is intensely popular and we keep an on-going list of people who wish to be trained. Sixteen people took the 30 hours of instruction which was held in Branson. Topics covered included Soils/Composting; Plant Growth; Integrated Pest Management; Turf Management; Plant Diagnostics; Plant Propagation; Trees; Insects; Annuals/Perennials; Vegetables; and Fruits.

Tourism was Enhanced at the Dewey Short Visitor’s Center
The Dewey Short Visitor’s Center is the largest project of the Master Gardeners. Headed by Carol Gerhart, the committee is responsible for developing and maintaining several flower beds at the Center. The Master Gardeners and the Core of Engineers have worked well together to make the Branson and Table Rock Lake area an appealing place for visitors.

Children's Garden Continues to Develop as an Effective Educational Tool
A significant project of the Master Gardeners is the Children's Garden at the Kimberling Area Library. The committee, headed by Julie Jacob, developed the grounds and established several theme gardens with the purpose of making learning fun and educational for younger children. They accomplished a lot on limited funds.
Master Gardener Scholarship Offered to College Student
Education is the primary function of Master Gardeners. The chapter made a decision in 2009 to use proceeds from educational events to fund a scholarship for college students majoring in horticulture. For 2010 the recipient was Cassidy Maples, a senior at College of the Ozarks. She received a scholarship for $1,000. She has worked on a special vegetable growing project that supplies food for the Keeter Center on campus.

Garden Programs Offered Monthly in Kimberling City for the Public
In 2010 the Master Gardeners continued their educational outreach by promoting educational events for the public at the Kimberling Area Library. Kathryn Kufahl organized seven free monthly programs on the topics of growing herbs, annuals, perennials, cut flowers, the hazards of poisonous plants, attracting birds to the yard and pressing flowers in the garden. These programs were all taught by Master Gardeners, including Alice Troyke, Julie Jacob, Barbara Sakowicz and Kathryn Kufahl. Attendance averaged about fifteen per session.

Ninety Master Gardeners Make a Difference
The Master Gardener program brings together people who possess a variety of talents and funnels those abilities into an organized effort to create a positive impact on quality of life, environmental resources and financial decisions on landscaping for residents. The Master Gardeners do many individual activities that make significant impacts. A large percentage of their time was dedicated to public assistance, youth, elderly and beautification projects. Summarizing the overall impact is impossible in a few paragraphs.

New Website Gives a Fresh New Look for the Master Gardeners
RJ Jacob completely rebuilt the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks website which is more user friendly for the public and provides more resources for the Master Gardeners. The Master Gardeners handbook was moved to the site for greater accessibility and to save the expense of printing.

Master Gardeners are Always Learning New Skills
Part of the requirement for being a Master Gardener is to devote time to further develop knowledge in horticulture. They are required to report at least six hours of continuing education each year. This year they averaged about 12 hours each of continuing education. A program committee insured that training was offered at every monthly Master Gardener meeting. Often this involved meetings at homes and garden centers. Special speakers were the norm at most monthly meetings this year.
University of Missouri Extension provides educational opportunities for individuals in all walks of life through workshops and short-courses. The goal is to improve people’s lives so that they can be healthy, productive citizens. This program focuses on nutrition, parenting, healthy living, financial management and enhancement of educational opportunities for citizens.

Impact in 2010

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy Program Teaches Physical Fitness
Fifty-one Stone County residents took part in Stay Strong, Stay Healthy exercise classes during 2010 at the Tri-Lakes TCRC in Reeds Spring. The program, developed by Tufts, is offered to adults over 50 and is designed to improve strength, balance and flexibility. According To Wayne Dietrich, program coordinator, four classes were offered during 2010 and will continue for 2011. Participants start with a series of warm-up exercises, perform a series of eight exercises and end each class with cool-down activities. All participants take part in a pre-assessment during the first class and are assessed again after the last class to determine their progress. The assessments measure balance, flexibility, leg strength and endurance.

The changes in ability and attitude are amazing with 100% of the participants showing improvement in at least one area, with most showing improvement in two or three. There were several that improved in all four areas. The program provides a great opportunity to socialize in the process. After the first class or two participants seem to form a bond, they support each other, check on each other and a lot of times, entertain each other. It makes for a fun, comfortable way to get a little exercise.

There were participants that started the program not using any weight at all when doing the exercises. By the end of the ten classes they are able to use weights with every exercise. They learn the right way to exercise, to get used to a routine and realize that with just a little effort they can improve their quality of life.

Family Nutrition Education Program
University of Missouri Extension Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP) reached 12,034 low-income participants with nutrition education in Stone County during 2010. FNEP provides information on nutrition, food safety, and physical activity for lifelong health and fitness. During 2010: 11,777 youths and 257 adults were served through schools, community groups and agencies.

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. Programs offered in Stone County during 2010 included the Show Me Nutrition in-classroom education effort. The Show Me Nutrition program was implemented in the following schools: Reeds Spring Primary, Reeds Spring Elementary, Galena-Abesville Elementary, Crane Elementary, Crane Middle School, Blue Eye Elementary, and Blue Eye Middle School. Eight Show Me Nutrition educational displays for teachers were utilized by schools in Stone County during FY10.

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 one hundred thirty-eight (3,138) teachers gave us feedback.
- 44% have participated in FNP for 3 or more years
- 99% (3,103 teachers) reported one or more changes in students after FNP.
**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.**

### Student Changes Reported by Teachers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student changes</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>93%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make healthier meal and/or snack choices</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>76%</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>75%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved hand washing</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved food safety other than hand washing</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased physical activity</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Teachers’ Changes (self-reported)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavioral change</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>52%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make healthier meal and/or snack choices</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat breakfast more often</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More willing to try new foods</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved hand washing</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved food safety other than hand washing</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased physical activity</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make/offer healthier food choices for students</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>34%</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>73%</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>64%</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>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thaw frozen foods at room temperature</td>
<td>76%</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>87%</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>

For adults who participated in EFNEP, results summarized for the state revealed the following:

**81% of graduates improved how they managed their food dollars**
- 47% of participants more often planned meals in advance
- 38% of participants more often compared prices when shopping
- 47% of participants more often used a list for grocery shopping
- 35% of participants less often ran out of food before the end of the month

**86% of graduates made healthier food choices**
- 47% of participants more often thought about healthy food choices when deciding what to feed their families
- 34% of participants more often prepared foods without adding salt
- 56% of participants more often used the “Nutrition Facts” on food labels to make food choices
- 32% of participants reported that their children ate breakfast more often

**80% of graduates demonstrated acceptable food safety practices**
- 50% of participants more often followed the recommended practice of not thawing foods at room temperature
- 24% more often followed the recommended practices of not allowing meat and dairy foods to sit out for more than two hours.

**97% of graduates made at least one improvement to their diets to more closely align with the USDA Dietary Guidelines**

In addition to the numbers, local success stories demonstrate program impact. Amanda Smigiel and Chalys McCoy, Nutrition Program Associates, shared the following stories:

*In a fifth grade class I had a student tell me they were exercising more because of the Nutrition Program.*

*A 1st grade teacher told me the students were washing their hands correctly after the hand washing les-
I had a high school student tell me that he was surprised how many foods he was eating that were less nutritious than others he should be eating after school. He was going to make it a goal to eat more high nutritious foods after school.

I had a preschool student ask their parents to buy Kiwi's because they were yummy and green. The Student hadn't ever tasted a kiwi before!

A Kindergarten student said they like low fat cheese and wanted to ask their grandmother to buy some.

A parent came up to me and said "So you are the one I have to thank for my daughter telling me to quit drinking so much Mountain Dew because it is not good for me and I need to Think about my drinks. I am glad to know that she is learning about nutrition and she was right I was drinking too much pop. Just so you know I have cut back and she often gets me ice water to encourage me to not drink as much pop. Our whole family has cut down a lot on pop."

A fourth grader said he was going to eat more fiber after learning how it helps with our digestion.

A 1st grader stated she was going to drink more milk to have strong teeth like her teacher!

In summary, it has been a successful year in Stone County for FNEP. We look forward to 2011, and the opportunity to continue promoting life-long health and fitness in SW Missouri.

Free Volunteer Tax Preparation Provides Economic Impact
University of Missouri Extension provided free tax assistance to low and moderate income families as part of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program in Stone and Taney Counties during 2010 tax season. VITA Volunteers assisted over 5000 families that qualify for the Earned Income Credit (EIC) with free tax preparation at five VITA sites in rural SW Missouri since the VITA program began in 2004.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) provides a valuable service to rural, low-moderate income working families with children who are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit and is an important economic development tool for communities as well. In the past year, twenty-two community volunteers prepared state and federal tax returns for 1068 low-moderate income families in Stone and Taney counties. As a result, taxpayers received $812,499 in federal refunds and $343,283 in earned income credit. Taxpayers saved over $213,800 in tax preparation fees. The economic impact of the VITA program to Stone and Taney Counties is over $2.5 million dollars to the local economy annually. The economic impact of the VITA benefits to the state of Missouri was reported to be $2.5 billion dollars.

- The VITA program in Stone and Taney counties was provided by the University of Missouri Extension MO TAX program in conjunction with the College of the Ozarks, Stone and Taney County OACAC, Kimberling Area Library and the Healthy Families Taskforce of Stone and Taney Counties. Ten community partners serve on the VITA steering committee.
- Over one thousand (1068) low-moderate income taxpayers in Stone and Taney Counties received $812,499 in Federal tax refunds resulting in $2,565,747.50 economic impact to the local economy.
- In addition 779 state tax returns and 222 property tax returns from the state of Missouri were prepared for families in Stone and Taney County
- Twenty-two community volunteers received sixteen hours of training in TaxWise and 20 VITA Volunteers were certified. They provided 1743 volunteer hours assisting with tax preparation at five VITA sites in Stone and Taney County. The economic impact of the volunteer hours of service was $30,955.68.
- Matching funds from both Stone and Taney county Commissioners and Operation Round-Up provided Funds for $4,000 budget to implement the program. Children’s Trust Fund provided $500 grant for training VITA Volunteers.
Financial Education Community Outreach Efforts

*Media* effects by Family Financial Education specialist included news articles, radio and television presentations in the southwest region. Newspaper articles were published throughout the southwest region and interviews were aired locally on KOLOR 10 television and at local radio stations providing consumer and financial information to over 100,000 households. *Money Management and Credit* was the subject of workshops presented at 20 sites in SW Missouri. (Christian, Green, Stone, and Taney Counties). Budgeting, money management, saving and investing, credit and taxes, and predatory lending was the topic of presentations to 414 low income families and 200 high school students. Participants gained knowledge of how to improve money management practices, develop a spending plan, save for emergency fund and unemployment needs, better understand predatory lending practice and learn how to make informed decisions when borrowing money. Results form participant evaluations indicate that a majority gained knowledge of predatory lending practices and basic money management skills. Fifty low income participants in *Sense and Saving* workshops at Stone and Taney County OACAC, Least of These Food Pantry in Nixa, and Christian Associates in Kimberly City gained knowledge of budgeting, credit, and predatory lending. Comments from participants indicated the following: as a result of the program. “do a budget and stick to it.”, “set financial goal and keep track of spending”, “get a savings account and use budget billing for utilities”, “get a credit report, call creditors and make a credit plan”, “get my credit straightened out”, and keep trying to reduce my bills.

Healthy Families Taskforce Coalition Serves Community

Health and Fitness was the focus of efforts by MU Extension and the Healthy Families Taskforce in Stone and Taney Counties to improve the health and wellness of youth and adults. Community coalition grants from Children Trust Fund and the MU Extension U.S.D.A Food Stamp program funded the programs:

*I CAN – Health Literacy Workshop* was conducted for parents of young children in Taney and Stone County in conjunction with the Healthy Families Taskforce and the Department of Health. Over 110 parents and children participated in the health screening event and learned how to address common health problems thereby avoiding costly emergency room visits. Parents received a free book, I CAN, that was developed by Johnson and Johnson in conjunction with UCLA to promote health literacy and avoid trips to Urgent Care or emergency room. Based on UCLA data, the economic impact of dollars saved on emergency room visits is $500 per participant or an economic saving of $55,500.

*School readiness fairs* provided health and nutrition information to 291 low-income families and 402 children in Taney County and 150 low-income families and 350 children in Stone County during the summer of 2010. Over $60,000 in school supplies and services was distributed at the Taney County School Readiness Fair. Participants received information from Extension about nutrition and free tax preparation at the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance sites in Stone and Taney Counties.

*Child Care Training* was provided to 107 child care providers in Stone and Taney Counties to improve the quality of childcare and address the requirements of 12 hours of training a in the core competencies to meet the state requirements. Training was provided by MU Extension, Child Care Resource and Referral, Community Partnership of the Ozarks, Hollister Elementary School and Branson Parents as Teachers in conjunction with the Healthy Families Taskforce in Stone and Taney Counties. An additional 15 day care providers in Ozark and 21 day care providers in Green county gained knowledge of How to Get Financially Fit by completing a personal financial checkup as well as child care business finances.
Impact of Healthy Families Taskforce Activities:

1068 low-moderate income families received $812,499 in federal refunds and $343,283 in earned income credit. Taxpayers saved over $213,800 in tax preparation fees at free VITA sites in Stone and Taney Counties.

1193 Low-income families (441 adults) and children (752 youth) participated in School Readiness Fair in Stone and Taney Counties viewed Healthy Families Taskforce / Children Trust Fund Exhibit and received school supplies and backpacks.

63 Child care providers participated in 12 hours of training by MU Extension and Child Care Resource and Referral in conjunction with Healthy Families Taskforce in Stone and Taney counties, Christian and Green County Extension.

110 parents and children participated in health screening and learned how to address common health problems thereby avoiding costly emergency room visits. The I CAN Health Literacy workshop conducted by the Healthy Families Taskforce of Stone and Taney counties resulted in an economic saving of $55,500 in Dr. and Emergency room visits.

22 parents and children participated in Slice of Summer nutrition and health event in conjunction with Stone County Extension and Stone County Health Department to promote healthy food choices and increase physical fitness.
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, and technology and commercialization.

### Impact in 2010

In Stone County, during 2010, 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 6 people and their companies with business start-up and management counseling, training, and other assistance. In addition, entrepreneurs and business owners in Stone County reported the following economic impact and activity as a result of the services provided by the MU Extension Business Development Program:

- **New jobs:** 3
- **Government contracts:** $7,967
- **Jobs retained:** 7
- **Acquired assets:** $96,329
- **Clients/companies receiving business counseling:** 6
- **Business training attendees and conference participants:** 8

Overall, the University of Missouri’s Business Development Programs (BDP) served 25,096 people and their businesses state-wide. The total impact for all businesses assisted by the BDP was:

- **New jobs:** 12,939
- **Sales increases:** $514,599,270
- **Government contracts:** $467,712,268
- **New businesses:** 265
- **Jobs retained:** 3,234
- **Loans and investments in business:** $204,073,294
- **Acquired assets:** $88,254,348
- **Investment in commercialization:** $47,083,591 in SBIR/STTR or research proposals submitted with $8,457,408 awards received
- **Clients/companies receiving business counseling:** 3,096
- **Business training attendees and conference participants:** 22,000

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.

**Significant Achievements in Stone County:**

Great efforts are being made to assess the economic climate of Stone County and reach out to local businesses by the new business development specialist, Chrystal Irons. Increasing awareness about the services MU Extension, Taney County Small Business Technology Development Center offers entre-
preneurs and current small business owners is a primary goal for the upcoming year. Programs offerings for Stone County citizens are being developed in an effort to educate business owners, enabling them to make informed business decisions. Business clients are counseled without bias in all areas of business development. With the support and sponsorship of the Stone County Extension Office and the Tri-Lakes Telecommunication Community Resource Center (TCRC) the following business classes have been offered to Stone County citizens during 2010:

**Starting a Business: The First Steps**  
4 Attendees / 1 Program Offering  
Learn the critical first steps you’ll take as you prepare to start your own business. Designed specifically for those who are thinking about starting a business, participants will have an opportunity to assess their strengths and weaknesses, learn about the importance of planning, discuss legal and regulatory requirements, and identify sources of financing.

**Successful Social Media Marketing**  
10 Attendees / 1 Program Offering  
This hands-on workshop is for those who are new or just beginning to explore social media opportunities. Internet accessibility for facilitator required.  
How to navigate through free social media tools  
Why so many businesses and organizations are using them  
How to build a Facebook page (personal & professional) and how to use the Facebook functions  
How to create account in LinkedIn, Twitter, and other free social media tools  
How blogging can market your business  
Setting up a social media strategy that maximizes the value of your business  
If you’ve wondered how to dive into social media, and whether and how it can benefit your business, this workshop is for you. We’ll explore popular social media sites, set up your accounts, and look at case studies of businesses profiting from free social media tools.

**Introduction to QuickBooks®**  
3 Attendees / 1 Program Offering  
During this two-session workshop, learn how to use this popular Windows based computerized bookkeeping package that provides accounts receivable, accounts payable, and inventory functions. The participants will receive an overview of the QuickBooks Centers to gain an understanding of how the program processes information. Procedures to properly account for your business transactions and construct your business financial reports will also be covered.
The Stone County Extension Center is involved in many activities in the community which not only serve as tools for getting needed information into the community, but also recognizes notable farm families. Extension has always worked together with community partners to improve the lives of Stone County residents.

**Youngbloods Chosen as State Fair Farm Family**
The 2010 Stone County State Fair Farm family were Jerry and Tahita Youngblood of Blue Eye. The Youngbloods are successful cow-calf beef operators and supports of the local extension program. They enjoyed the state fair and a banquet in August that honored them along with other farm families from across the state.

**Council Dinner and Recognition Night**
The extension council dinner was held in September in Galena with council members and guests attending. Special guests for the evening included Representative Jay Wasson and Presiding Commissioner Dennis Wood.

**Leaders Honor Roll**
In 2010, Dieter Beam and Kenneth Booth were nominated for the extension Leaders Honor Roll for there support of extension programs. Dieter Beam has worked tirelessly as the Master Gardener Media Liaison and Kenneth Booth has strongly supported the extension program over the years as a council member and Northern District Commissioner. Sadly, Kenneth passed away in late, 2010.

**Southwest Region News Service**
The Southwest Region News Service operates out of the Greene County office and uses a variety of techniques and tools to reach over 250,000 southwest Missouri residents (including people in Stone County) every week with research-based MU Extension information. Some of the tools used include an e-mailed weekly news service that reaches 6,000—plus subscribers, the use of social media like Facebook, Flickr, Linkedin and Youtube to reach an additional 2,000-plus people per week and three weekly columns in urban newspapers that reach an audience of over 120,000. Regular interviews of MU Extension specialists on Springfield television and radio stations expand our audience further and nearly 100,000 people read our regional MU Extension media releases each week in a variety of local and regional print publications.
**Chairman**  
Jerry Youngblood

**Vice Chairman**  
Billy Beall Jr.

**Secretary**  
Stacy Bale

**Co-Treasurer**  
Mike Kaup

**Other Members:**  
Jackie Anderson  
Jim Aten  
Kenneth Booth, Appointed—County Commission  
Amy Bowman  
Diane Butler  
Tom Keohan  
Sherrie Mallonee, Appointed—Farm Bureau  
Michael McCullough  
Wesley Smith  
Todd Starr  
Rick Squibb  
Shannon Squibb  
Chris Tarter  
Joyce Thompson  
Gary Webb  
Tahita Youngblood  
Mary Vizneki Appointed—City of Galena

**Youth Members:**  
Derek Moore  
Zackary Ray

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**Unique partnership**

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

- Work with extension specialists to provide the county with quality educational programs;
- Manage finances of local extension operations;
- Provide personnel to carry out extension activities; and
- Elect and organize the local extension council.

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**STONE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Dennis Wood  
Jerry Dodd  
Kenneth Booth

**STONE COUNTY CLERK**

Judy Berkstresser
State, Federal and County Funding for Extension
University of Missouri Extension programs in Stone County are funded by county, state and federal appropriations. Local funding for support of the Stone County Extension Center is provided by the Stone County Commission. They provide office space, funds for office expenses, clerical salaries and travel expenses of extension specialists who conduct educational programs in the county. The county also funded an additional $1,000 for the VITA program. A special acknowledgement and appreciation is given to our commissioners, Dennis Wood, Jerry Dodd and Kenneth Booth and county clerk, Judy Berkstresser for financial assistance.

University of Missouri’s Contribution to the County Extension Program
University of Missouri provides salaries and benefits for one professional and two paraprofessional staff members headquartered in Stone County.

The University provides in-service training expenses, including travel and lodging for staff and matching funds for computer equipment costs and maintenance. The local program leveraged approximately $68,000 in fees, matches and sponsor support to pay for programs.

The University of Missouri provided support during 2010 to the extension program in Stone County valued at $113,466. Combined with county funding, the total funds to operate the program totaled **$161,669**. This does not include the leveraged funds raised this year.

### Financial Statement
#### December 31, 2010

**REVENUE**
- County Appropriation $48,203.00

**TOTAL REVENUE** $48,203.00

**EXPENSES**
- Office Manager Salary $25,494.48
- Council Paid Benefits $2,250.33
- Youth Associate $7,430.00
- Clerical Assistance $563.51
- Travel $5,134.96
- Postage $359.90
- Telephone $1,115.10
- DSL & Fax $681.56
- Supplies and Service $1,161.03
- Printing $230.53
- Extension Council Election $238.57
- Insurance—Bond & Contents $100.00
- Miscellaneous $65.00
- Copy Machine Lease $1,977.40
- Furniture and equipment $1,275.85
- Maintenance & Repairs $100.00
- Transfer to Programs $24.78

**TOTAL LIABILITIES** $48,203.00

**RESTRICTED FUNDS ACCOUNT BALANCES**
- 4-H Youth Associate Fund $2,291.76
- Postage Fund (Provided by MU) $2,688.01
- Master Gardeners of the Ozarks Funds $11,323.39
- Master Gardener Training $815.75
- Short Course $1,059.83
- 4-H Leaders Council Funds $2,173.13
- Resale (Revolving Sales) $483.29
- Soil Testing $1,904.36
- 4-H $177.62
- Programs $493.98
- Checking Account Interest $345.52

**TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCES** $23,756.64