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 84th 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  Jerry Youngblood  Tim Schnakenberg
Stacey Bale  Jerry Youngblood  Tim Schnakenberg
Council Secretary  Council Chairman  County Program Director
January 2012

Dear County Commissioners and Associated Friends of MU Extension:

“Efficiency” and “Innovation” are two watchwords of citizens and government in our currently challenging economy. I am pleased to report that University of Missouri Extension has kept these words in the forefront and acted accordingly for the benefit of Missouri residents statewide.

Funded through the support of federal, state and county government; grants and contracts; fees for services; and private gifts, MU Extension leverages every dollar received to create expanded educational opportunities. Every dollar provided from counties is leveraged with an additional $6.00 to create a significant return on investment.

MU Extension creates value for citizens – including those who do not participate directly in its programs. For example:

- **The federal Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program** provided $1.6 million to the state of Missouri. These funds provide nutrition education to limited-resource families. Participants who graduate from the program improve the way they manage their food dollars; demonstrate acceptable food safety practices and make healthier food choices. A healthy labor force is critical to attracting and keeping jobs in Missouri. In addition, this important program reduces healthcare costs over the participant’s lifetime, saving taxpayers money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.

- **2011 has been a difficult year due to natural disasters in Missouri.** The MU Extension statewide Community Emergency Management Program and local emergency management groups provided immediate on-site assistance by coordinating with the State Emergency Management Agency, Red Cross and other groups and by providing online resources through web pages and other media. As a result, citizens learned how to avoid scammers, ensure safe drinking water and food, and recover from a disaster. MU Extension’s emergency management program helps communities, businesses, schools and residents reduce a community’s disaster recovery period. This action saves lives and countless dollars in emergency recovery operations and avoids job loss. Additionally, the whole community builds a greater sense of cohesion.

These are just two examples of MU Extension’s public value impact. I’m sure you will find many other examples in your local community.

I want to thank you for your support of MU Extension as a critical team player in your locale. Your ideas for improving our partnership are always welcome.

Sincerely,

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

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Agriculture and Environmental Quality

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 2011

Overcoming the 2011 Drought

The 2011 drought was an exceptional event for farmers in Stone County. The summer was the fifth hottest on record in southwest Missouri and rainfall was about 4-5 inches below normal for June through August. Stone County livestock producers were very concerned about the potential for high nitrate issues in their forages. In particular, crops such as sorghum sudan and millet that was to be grazed or hayed were the primary concerns. Extension specialists used a technique using a material containing diphenylamine and sulfuric acid to do quick on-the-spot nitrate tests to aid producers in deciding if they could graze forages or cut them for hay. They also encouraged producers to do more in-depth analyses to make better decisions for forage management.

A program was offered in October called “Overcoming the 2011 Weather: Post-Drought Cattle Feeding” to Stone County farmers in Crane. The program was presented by Tim Schnakenberg, Agronomy Specialist, and Eldon Cole, Livestock Specialist and focused on how to stretch hay supplies, renovating drought-stressed forage stands and emergency feed sources for cattle. Twenty producers participated in the program.

Programming For the Beef Producer

The weather was a major contributor to extension educational efforts in southwest Missouri in 2011. Early in the year above normal rainfall delayed hay harvest and resulted in low quality hay. In June, it began a dry, hot period that lasted until late September- early October. This weather resulted in early feeding of hay, short hay supplies, loss of forage stands, high nitrate forages, prussic acid risks, especially with johnsongrass and other poisonous weeds. Heat stress likely resulted in some death losses and abortions.

The above situations resulted in many phone calls, office visits and emails from farmers seeking help in coping with livestock nutrition, health and toxicity issues. Nitrate testing was especially popular from late July to mid-September. The majority of the “quick” subjective testing revealed at least some nitrates. Recommendations generally were to have the forage tested at the lab. Those tests usually showed the
nitrate levels were in the moderate risk area.
We do not have the exact number of samples, both hay and silage, that were run by the lab nor the average percent nitrates in the feed. So far, there does not appear to be any adverse reactions to the nitrates. Perhaps our advice on feeding and managing livestock in high nitrate situations helped in that regard. It did provide extension specialists a “teachable moment.”
The poor quality forage and the lack of it will be felt for some time with beef cattle. Farmers have culled heavily, bought hay and rented pasture in order to hang on to their valuable herds. The cattle market has made this a bitter sweet affair as prices for feeders and cull breeding stock are at record highs. Prices are forecast to remain high and likely will surpass the 2011 level.
In addition to the one-on-one efforts in beef nutrition and management, the following extension activities aided Stone countians with livestock production and marketing.
Stone countians who each purchased one bull in the regional tested bull sale at Springfield were Brian Cutbirth, Crane and Chad Murray, Galena.

Educational opportunities were made available via the Monett Beef Cattlemen’s Conference, the Grazing Schools, monthly Southwest Missouri Cattlemen’s Association meetings, an evening tour to Ratcliff Ranch in OK, the Southwest Center Field Day, Spring Forage Conference, Springfield, Livestock Forage Conference in Crane. A special event for the four-corner states was the Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle Conference at Joplin.
Additional livestock information sources include a variety of mass media outlets through the Southwest Region News Service, weekly radio spot on KKOW Radio, Pittsburg, KS and a monthly Beef Newsletter is received by around 800 homes. About one-half of these are via email.

81st Annual Livestock and Forage Conference
About eighty 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 2011. Topics included risk management for ag producers, emerging issues in cattle health, energy efficiency on the farm, fall and winter grazing and an update of farm programs. Ninety-five percent of the participants in an evaluation stated they would make changes in the management of their farms as a result of the information presented.

8th 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 45 people in attendance representing about twelve dairies. 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 a 2011 dairy outlook, energy efficiency on the farm, managing somatic cell counts, Roundup-Ready alfalfa and a popular producer panel covering current issues in dairy farming. Ninety percent of the participants in an evaluation rated the program as outstanding or above average.

On-Farm Demonstration Provide Local Management Information
On-farm demonstrations are invaluable for demonstrating new and improved farm practices. Through the efforts of regional agronomy specialists, Dow Agrosciences provided herbicides to use for on-farm demonstrations and experimentation. One of the demonstrations was held at the Larry Cox farm west of Galena. Larry sprayed an unproductive pasture with a prescribed mix of herbicides during the late
summer. This was an attempt to determine the effectiveness of late summer/fall sprays on brush control. The project was evaluated in the fall and will a followup will be done next spring.

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, twenty-five 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.

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 166 soil tests handled for farmers and homeowners in Stone County in 2011. This service has become more important for people to be educated on where their grassland fertility level stands prior to fertilizer application.

News Releases Keep Forage and Crop 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 2011 dealt with making hay pay on the farm, soil testing, nitrate issues during a drought, dealing with Johnsongrass and ragweed, buying hay for horses, crop pest reports, stockpiling fescue, fall grazing options, armyworms in crops, spotted knapweed, corn emergence, Roundup-Ready alfalfa, warm season grasses for pastures and forage development.
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 92 active Master Gardeners in the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks group. Of these there are 63 who reside in Stone County, 25 residing in Taney County, two in Barry County, one in Christian County, and one who resides in Boone County, Arkansas.

**Impact in 2011**

**Master Gardener Total Impact**
The Master Gardeners of the Ozarks had a very eventful year in 2011. A total of 4,200 hours were reported in 2011 by seventy-four Master Gardeners who served the entire year and reported. They reported making 5,131 contacts with persons in the community in 2011. 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 57 hours of service. According to the latest figures from the Independent Sector organization, the hourly wage for Missouri volunteer hours currently is $18.57. If you put a value on the education and service hours provided to the community, the value totals nearly $78,000 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 Kathryn Kufahl, President, Sharon Burgess, Vice-President, Veronica Oots and Elaine Fischer, Co-Secretaries, and Bill Greet, Treasurer. The Master Gardeners met monthly, alternating between locations in Stone and Taney County and the executive committee met frequently between meetings. Kathryn Kufahl represented Southwest Missouri on the State Master Gardener Board. Sandra Reames served as the publicity director. A special committee was organized in 2011, headed by RJ Jacob, to provide $3,000 in grant funds for Master Gardener projects. As a result funds will be distributed in early 2012 that will provide a boost to several special projects within the organization.
Eighth Year of the Fall Gardening Workshop
In October, the Master Gardeners hosted their popular Fall Gardening Workshop in Kimberling City. There were 135 people who attended the program from Stone and Taney Counties. Topics covered perennial shade gardening, country garden design, spring vegetable gardening and Japanese maples. This year a question-answer clinic was also offered using speakers and Master Gardeners.

Beautiful Homes and Landscapes Featured on the Garden Tour
Master Gardeners offered their third garden tour in June. Chaired by Rosanne McEvoy, the tour attracted participants from a wide area and featured the gardens of nine homes from Lampe to Talking Rocks Road and near the Cape Fair area. Ninety 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.

Taney County Extension Center Landscape Project
Numerous Taney County Master Gardeners were involved in a large landscaping project at the Taney County Extension Center. This project significantly transformed the grounds into a showplace for all residents to enjoy. It also showcased the talents and dedication of the Master Gardeners in the county using a shoestring budget. This project was coordinated by Danny Manis.

Huge Interest in the Spring Gardening Workshop
Over 160 people participated in the 8th annual Spring Gardening Workshop on a March Saturday in Branson. Participants learned about practical home vegetable gardening, invasive plants in the Ozarks, hostas, pines suitable for Southwest Missouri and the 2011 Missouri Plants of Merit program. Ninety-six percent of the evaluation respondents rated the program as outstanding or above average. Ninety-seven percent stated that the program met their expectations. Some of the comments on the evaluation mentioned the following: “Very excited to be here. I want to come next year!”; “Very well organized and orderly. Love the on-line registration”.

Master Gardener Training offered in Ozark
A Master Gardener training was offered in Branson West but due to a lower response, this was cancelled. Seven residents opted to be trained at the Ozark session and took the 30 hours of instruction. Topics covered included Soils/Composting; Plant Growth; Integrated Pest Management; Turf Management; Plant Diagnostics; Plant Propagation; Trees; Insects; Annuals/Perennials; Vegetables; and Fruits. New Master Gardeners included Dean and Cindi Kirkpatrick, Dobie Youngblood, Laurie McCann, Mike Flinn, Halina Beal and Judy Schmitt. A graduation ceremony was conducted at the December Master Gardener holiday function.

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 Kathryn Kufahl, 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. Special recognition was given this year to Carol Gerhart who served as chair of this project for many years.

**Children's Garden is a Place of Pride for Kimberling City**
A significant project of the Master Gardeners is the Children's Garden at the Kimberling Area Library. The committee, headed by Julie Jacob and Ruth Ann Seth, continues to develop the grounds and has made the garden a place of pride for the residents of Kimberling City.

**Master Gardener Scholarship Offered to College Student**
Education is the primary function of Master Gardeners. The chapter made a decision a few years ago to use proceeds from educational events to fund a scholarship for college students majoring in horticulture or a similar field. Elaine Fischer coordinated this effort. For 2011 the recipient was Tomas Ovington, a Sophomore at College of the Ozarks. He received a scholarship for $1,000.

**Garden Programs Offered Monthly in Kimberling City for the Public**
In 2011 the Master Gardeners continued their educational outreach by promoting educational events for the public at the Kimberling Area Library. Kathryn Kufahl organized six free well-attended monthly programs on the topics of heirloom tomatoes, shade perennials, deer-resistant gardens, flower arranging, growing vegetables and composting. These programs were all taught by Master Gardeners, including Alice Troyke, Joe Wolven, Rita Williams and Kathryn Kufahl.

**Stone County Library Landscaping Project**
A small but dedicated committee was very active this year in improving the landscaping at the Stone County Library. Funds were provided by the library board and the Master Gardeners provided the planning and labor to get the many beds on the newer library back in shape. The project was coordinated by David Smith.

**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 13 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 the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center 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 2011

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy Program Teaches Physical Fitness
Forty-two Stone County residents took part in Stay Strong, Stay Healthy exercise classes during 2011 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, 430 hours of instruction was offered during 2011 and will continue for 2012. 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 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 to 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.

Slice of Summer Series
A series of summer events were conducted monthly from June to August in Stone County. Parents and children were invited to participate in Slicer of Summer events from 9:00 Am to Noon at Framers Markets in Galena, Crane, and Reeds Spring High School. The Slice of Summer programs were conducted by the Stone County Health Department and the Stone County Extension office for children to participate in activities that increase physical activity through exercise in and educate parent about the importance of healthy snacks and making food choices to promote good health and nutrition.
Each session is focused on promoting healthy snacks using the Eat Smart, Play Hard ESBA curriculum. The importance of exercise for children was presented by the Stone County Health Department. Each session features a 30 minute informative look at nutrition followed by an interactive play session with children to encourage active, healthy lifestyles. The monthly program was offered at three different locations throughout Stone County during the summer of 2011.

The Slice of Summer events featured the following monthly sessions that focused on nutrition and exercise activities:

Session 1 – Galena Farmers Market  
June 18, 2011  9 - noon  
16 parents and children gained information about nutritious snacks that are healthy and affordable. Participants learned about making healthy food choices and exercise to promote active lifestyles. The fitness activity featured interactive games using the Frisbee.

Session 2 – Crane Farmers Market  
July 23, 2011  9- noon  
19 parents and children gained information about nutritious snacks and the importance of water in keeping hydrated during exercise. Nutritious snacks of fruit roll ups with yogurt were used to introduce new fruits. The fitness activity featured interactive games with ball toss.

Session 3 – Reed Spring High School  
August 5, 2011  8 – 2pm  
315 children gained awareness of the importance of reading the label and making informed nutritious choices at School Readiness Fair Exhibit featuring fruits and beverages. All the children received a piece of fruit and incentive to promote physical activity.  
40 parents and children participated in Slice of Summer activities at noon following the School Readiness Fair Exhibit at Reeds Spring High School. Nutritious snacks of peanut butter and banana wraps were prepared by the children and adults to illustrate ways to introduce nutritionist snacks for back to school. The fitness activity featured interactive games with water balloons.

The Goal of the Slice of Summer events was to educate parents and children to make healthy food choices within a limited budget and choose physically active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Participants in Slice of Summer learned how to live healthier lives by making the right food choices and increasing their physical activity. Parents and children received nutrition education, health assessment and wellness information.

Collaboration with the Stone County Health Department, Stone County Parks Department/Farmers market, Stone County Extension, and Healthy Families Taskforce Agencies in Stone County contributed to the success of the program.
Mission was to promote families experiencing healthy lifestyles through exercise and activities, educate families on nutritious snacks, provide health assessment for families and to connect families to area resource throughout the community.

Participants Reached included:
200 adults and 315 children participated in the School Readiness Fair (Exhibit).
Slice of summer participants included 45 moms/ grandparents.
11 fathers attended one or more of the events.
11 boys and 19 girls participated in the slice of summer events.

Participation of 515 parents and children in the school readiness exhibit and 56 parents 30 children in the Slice of Summer events indicated the success of the program. As a new event, the participation of low to moderate income families in Stone County met the goal.

A majority of the families reported increased awareness of healthy snacks for kids and made an effort to put exercise in their daily activities

According to Kim King, Stone County Health Department, “The Slice of the Summer program provided an opportunity for children and parents to get nutritious snacks and experience physical activities that are active and promote good health. The incentives and nutritious snacks for children provided nutritional information that promote making healthy food choices”

Annette FitzGerald, MU Extension specialist, reported that “The partnership of the Stone County Health Department and Stone county FNP Extension staff involved in the implementing the program contributed to the success of the Slice of Summer Events. Healthy Families Task Force members assisted in recruiting participants and marketing the program. Parents and children received nutritious snacks and free items to promote health and physical fitness funded by the University of Missouri Food Stamp Nutrition Grant.”

Family Nutrition Program Education
大学 of Missouri Extension Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP) reached 11,871 low-income participants with nutrition education in Stone County during 2011. 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.

Programs offered in Stone County during 2011 included:
- *Show Me Nutrition* in-classroom education 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.
- *Eating Smart, Being Active* materials were provided at Our Lady of the Cove Catholic Church, OACAC Branson West, and the Stone County Health Department.
- *Food Power Adventure* is an interactive exhibit that takes children to the farm to learn where food comes from, and into the human body to learn how it gives them energy to grow and play. Food Power was held in Hurley Elementary school.
- *Jump Into Fun and Fitness* lessons were taught at First Baptist Church.

During 2011:10,663 youth and 1,208 adults were served through schools, community groups and agencies.
State-wide:
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 three hundred sixty (3,360) teachers gave us feedback.
- 53% have participated in FNP for 3 or more years
- 98% (3,305 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>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat breakfast more often</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More willing to try new foods</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved hand washing</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>76%</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>62%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<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>51%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make healthier meal and/or snack choices</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat breakfast more often</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More willing to try new foods</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved hand washing</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved food safety other than hand washing</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased physical activity</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make/offer healthier food choices for students</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td></td>
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</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.*
For adults who participated in EFNEP, results summarized for the state revealed the following:

**82% of graduates improved how they managed their food dollars**
- 48% of participants more often planned meals in advance
- 40% of participants more often compared prices when shopping
- 51% 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

**87% 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
- 59% of participants more often used the “Nutrition Facts” on food labels to make food choices
- 35% of participants reported that their children ate breakfast more often

**79% of graduates demonstrated acceptable food safety practices**
- 49% of participants more often followed the recommended practice of not thawing foods at room temperature
20% more often followed the recommended practices of not allowing meat and dairy foods to sit out for more than two hours.

*98% 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. Nutrition Program Associate, Amanda Smigiel, shared the following stories:

I was at my local Wal-Mart store shopping. I was approached by a parent. She said after her son tried V8 juice at school he loved it. They now buy it for their home and the whole family loves to drink it!

The students at Branson Primary commented how they wash their hands the ‘right way’ after learning about germs.

I was working with my county Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC) Office to offer the *Plan, Shop and Save* class. At first, only a few people had signed up but by the first day of the class we had to relocate because 26 had signed up! This was my first time doing a class for OACAC. They have now called for classes every other month!

In summary, it has been a successful year in Stone County for FNEP. We look forward to 2012, and the opportunity to continue promoting life-long health and fitness in SW Missouri.

If you would like additional information about the program, please contact the Stone County Extension office at 417-357-6812, or the Regional FNEP Coordinator at 417-886-2059 x11.
Community visioning was the primary thrust of the community development program in 2011. A community must consider where they want their community to go in the future to begin the planning for positive changes for tomorrow.

Impact in 2011

Visioning Programs in Kimberling City, Crane, Galena and Reeds Spring
During 2011, Jeff Barber the MU Extension Housing and Environmental Design Specialist brought a collaborative effort that he has developed with the Drury University Center of Community Studies to Stone County. By working to develop opportunities for four communities, architecture students from Drury University met with citizens to discuss the assets and frustrations they face within their respective towns and the region at-large. Citizens in Reeds Spring, Galena, Crane and Kimberling City worked with the students to develop ideas for their future and create a ‘visioning toolkit’ for each community.

The spring effort focused on what the students referred to as the Tri-Town area, with teams of five students each helping Reeds Spring, Galena and Crane to really study what their towns had as assets and how they could build on those aspects cooperatively with the neighboring communities. Emphasis on the linkage of the Scenic Byway, waterways, the railroad and an agricultural heritage led to new insights about how each community could improve their own space and be better positioned to work with the others. Concepts that emerged included looking at their ‘Main Streets / Squares’, understanding current trends in economic development, the importance of student entrepreneurship, the development of a local food network and the potential of active living in their communities, drawing their focus to developing a shared greenway for the region.

During the fall, Kimberling City citizens worked with students to identify their big issues. First, the students were confronted with the challenges of the seasonal economy, the demographics of a predominantly retirement aged community, the lack of an identifiable ‘town center’ or Main Street, the lack of places for the community to gather and the separation of the community from the lakeshore that creates their largest city limit. Here the focus on connecting the community took root in a long term vision of creating a city plaza and developing an alternate Main Street from the current Highway 13. A focus on active living and its potential for tourism suggested that a lakeshore greenway would allow people to experience the lake and the town more completely. Most notably, was the grand vision of developing a state freshwater aquarium and research center.

This collaborative effort was enabled by fundraising beyond the annual county budget with the early assistance during the spring semester by a $6,000 grant from OACAC to seed the funding for Reeds Spring, Galena and Crane. Other stake holders contributed to raise a total of $12,000 through the Stone County Extension Council. Those funds paid the travel, supply and printing costs of 15 Drury architec-
ture students. This effort alone brought over $150,000 worth of value through the efforts of the students, with each committing over 200 hours of service throughout the semester. The work in these three towns inspired the citizens on Kimberling City and in just 4 weeks, they were able to raise the $4,450 necessary to bring 10 architecture students to their town resulting in an estimated $100,000 value.

The summary impact is that beyond the budget of the Stone County Extension Council, they were able to assist in the development of $16,450 to enable students to work with them in developing an overall value in excess of $250,000. Through directed efforts of MU Extension and community partners, the ‘visioning toolkits’ will help guide ways that the efforts can continue to develop the community resources identified by these 25+ year long range visions.
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 2011**

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In Stone County, during 2011, 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 10 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: 7
- Jobs retained: 26
- Clients/companies receiving business counseling: 10
- Business training attendees and conference participants: 20

Overall, the University of Missouri’s Business Development Programs (BDP) served 17,207 people and their businesses state-wide. The total impact for all businesses assisted by the BDP was:

- New jobs: 5,765
- Sales increases: $235,430,804
- Government contracts: $191.5 Million
- New businesses: 249
- Jobs retained: 1,708
- Loans and investments in business: $199,474,000
- Acquired assets: $77,573,861
- Investment in commercialization: $151,567,881 in SBIR/STTR or research proposals submitted with $4,337,056 awards received
- Clients/companies receiving business counseling: 3,095

Business training attendees and conference participants 14,111
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, including through the exploration of business ownership and career repositioning following company closings, layoffs and other employment-related changes.

**Missouri Environmental Program** – Showing businesses how to save money by reducing waste, understanding regulations and using recycled materials.
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 2011

**4-H Grows Future Scientists**
Annually, 4-H faculty, staff and volunteers create opportunities for 309,285 youth. 4-H project work and related educational experiences helps youth explore interests from animal science to aerospace, resulting in increased interest in science at a rate three times that of non-4-H peers. Interest in science is a predictor for young people to choose science-related careers. This interest in science, along with 4-H members’ 70 percent greater likelihood to go to college than youth participating in other out-of-school programs, is helping grow future scientists. Future scientists are critical to our state, national and global economy; three-quarters of Missouri’s 9.5 billion in products and services exported in 2009 were science, engineering and technology-based industries (Lerner and Lerner, Wave 6; MERIC).

**4-H Kids Move**
Annually, 4-H faculty, staff and volunteers create opportunities in Healthy Living for 239,039 youth. 4-H project work and related educational experiences helps youth explore interests in nutrition, health and physical activity. 4-H Youth are 3 times less likely to engage in risk behaviors affecting their health and 25% more engaged in helping others than youth in other out-of-school programs. Eating healthy and being physically active at an early age is important. Young children are among the most active of all segments of the population. By the teen years activity levels begin to decline, continuing into adulthood. The Center for Disease Control predicts the direct health costs to Missourians associated with obesity to be $3.37 million for 2013 and $8.2 million by 2018 if Missourians waistline keeps expanding.

**4-H’ers are Leaders for Life**
Annually, 4-H faculty, staff and volunteers create opportunities for 336,318 youth. 4-H project work and related educational experiences help youth explore interests in citizenship, communications and leadership. 4-H Youth report 3 times more opportunities than their non-4-H peers to engage in meaningfully community leadership roles. This interest in leadership and community service along with 4-H members’ 70 percent greater likelihood to go to college than youth participating in other out-of-school programs is growing leader’s today and for tomorrow.

Ashley Painter, Jami Asher, Jordan Painter and Marie Townsend carry their robot to the arena for a match at the world robotics championship.

Will King and Ashley Painter get advice on training dogs for agility courses at a Stone County workshop.
Stone County 4-H Club has Outstanding Rookie Year in Robotics Competition

One of our Stone County 4-H clubs, Bit by Bit, has evolved into a FIRST FRC Robotics Team #3784. In case you haven’t heard of FIRST, it was founded by inventor Dean Kamen to inspire appreciation of science and technology in young people. Teams of students and professional mentors are provided a standard supply of parts, and a grueling six weeks to design, program, build and test a robot for one or more regional competitions, with the possibility of advancing to Nationals.

This was their first year of robotics and the entry fee to the FIRST competition was paid for by a $6,500 grant from NASA. Their club leader, Peggy Painter, wrote another grant this year and has been notified that they were once again chosen to be a recipient of a NASA sponsored FIRST grant so they will be competing again in 2012.

The Bit by Bit 4-H Club was a big winner at the FIRST robotics regional competition held in Kansas City in March. Specifically, they won the: 2011 GKC Regional Highest Seeded Rookie Team, 2011 GKC Regional “Gracious Professionalism” Award winner, 2011 GKC Regional 1st Place Alliance. This qualified them to compete at the National FIRST competition in St. Louis in April. They also did very well there and ended up in the top eight percent of the teams in the nation.

This club has been designated as the Regional Co-coordinators of the State 4-H Robotics program. Club and team members held various robotics training sessions throughout the region at public libraries, the Southwest Research Center and at two of the member-leader training sessions, one held at Drury College in Springfield and one just recently completed at Neosho.

Ashley Painter, 17 and Lillie Thomas, 12, both from FIRST FRC Robotics Team 3784, a part of Bit by Bit 4-H Club, presented research projects at the Missouri Southern Regional Science Fair (MSRF). Their projects were based on research they conducted as part of their involvement with the 4-H club robotics team.

Ashley's project about pole climbing mini-robots at the KC FIRST Regional Robotics Competition placed 2nd in the Computer Science, Engineering, and Mathematics senior division. She also received the US Air Force Award and the Office of Naval Science Award, and was chosen as one of two Senior Grand Prize winners.

Ashley then represented this region at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Los Angeles in May. This was Ashley’s fifth year to compete at the MSRF, she and Lillie were the only students from a 4-H club. This was Lillie’s first time to participate in a science fair and she got many new ideas for future projects. Ashley has since been accepted to the University of Missouri at Rolla and been awarded numerous scholarships to pursue a degree in engineering.
4-H Members Participate in the Missouri 4-H Equine Tour
Jacob Ray and Nathan Carr of the Spring Creek 4-H club went on the Missouri 4-H Equine Tour for the second year. This year they stayed in Missouri and visited several equine facilities. Nathan has chosen his career field based on his 4-H experiences, he plans on becoming a farrier and attending the farrier school at Lamar that they toured last summer.

Regional Involvement
Several members attended 4-H camp at Camp Smokey at Roaring River State Park and some of them served as counselors for the younger campers. We had members attend various other regional and state level activities such as, Barn-warming, Dairy Cow Judging Camp, and Regional Achievement Day, showing livestock at county fairs and at the Ozark Empire Fair.

4-H Member Awarded SARE Youth Grant
Stone County had a SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education) youth grant recipient again this year, Ashley Painter was awarded a grant to do research on top-bar hives of honey bees.

Lesa King and Ashley Painter captures a swarm of honey bees for Ashley to use in her SARE grant research project.
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.

Delongs Chosen as State Fair Farm Family
The 2011 Stone County State Fair Farm family were Ron and Patty Delong of rural Marionville. The Delongs are successful Jersey and 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 Program Planning in September
The extension council conducted an extensive process for program planning at their September council meeting. The council broke out into small groups and determined key issues that affect the county and determined directions for the extension program in the coming year.

Leaders Honor Roll
In 2011, Dieter Beam and Kenneth Booth honored as members of the extension Leaders Honor Roll for their 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.
Stone County Council

Chairman
Jerry Youngblood

Vice Chairman
Billy Beall Jr.

Secretary
Stacy Bale

Treasurer
Mike Kaup

Other Members:
Jackie Anderson
Jim Aten
Amy Bowman
Diane Butler
John Gilley
Karen Gilley
Jim Huy, Appointed—County Commission
Tom Keohan
Wade Martin
George Scott
David Smith
Rick Squibb
Rob Stone, Appointed—City of Galena
Chris Tarter
LeRoy Uber, Appointed—Farm Bureau
Suzie Williams
Tahita Youngblood
Youth Members:
Caleb Baker
Nathan Carr

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.

STONE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Dennis Wood
Jerry Dodd
Jim Huy

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 Jim Huy 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 University of Missouri provided support during 2011 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 including fees, matches and sponsor support to pay for programs.

Financial Statement
December 31, 2011

REVENUE
County Appropriation $ 48,203.00
TOTAL REVENUE $ 48,203.00

EXPENSES
Office Manager Salary $ 25,658.80
Council Paid Benefits $ 2,279.36
Youth Associate $ 7,430.00
Clerical Assistance $ 588.75
Travel $ 5,437.05
Postage $ 362.00
Telephone, DSL & Fax $ 1,095.59
Supplies and Service $ 1,551.03
Printing $ 369.07
Extension Council Election $ 623.25
Insurance—Bond & Contents $ 100.00
Miscellaneous $ 81.00
Copy Machine Lease $ 2,094.72
Furniture and equipment $ 185.98
Maintenance & Repairs $ 0.00
Transfer to Programs $ 195.53
TOTAL LIABILITIES $ 48,203.00

RESTRICTED FUNDS ACCOUNT BALANCES
4-H Youth Associate Fund $ 2,647.11
Postage Fund (Provided by MU) $ 3,182.62
Master Gardeners of the Ozarks Funds $ 12,894.32
Master Gardener Training $ 396.17
Stay Strong Stay Healthy $ 559.83
Livestock & Forage Conference $ 207.15
Dairy Day $ 162.79
Hay School $ 277.69
Short Course $ 218.85
4-H Leaders Council Funds $ 2,263.57
Resale (Revolving Sales) $ 425.04
Soil Testing $ 2,162.00
4-H $ 304.68
Programs $ 999.10
Checking Account Interest $ 415.19
TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCES $ 27,116.11