Dear County Commissioners and Friends of MU Extension:

Over the past year, with a theme of Celebrating the Past and Building for the Future, MU Extension marked a century of service to Missouri. While the celebrations have come to an end, the focus on building for the future is strong. The university’s commitment to the mission of bringing relevant, reliable and responsive education to improve lives and local economies is alive and well.

To maintain our position as a valued and trusted resource for Missourians, MU Extension continues to strengthen existing programs, build relationships and explore new opportunities to benefit Missourians. For example:

In the area of agriculture, the Show-Me Select Heifer Replacement program continues to improve the breeding performance of heifers as it helps participants realize record prices for their efforts. Producers from 103 of Missouri’s 114 counties have enrolled heifers in the program. In a record-setting sale, 168 bred replacement heifers sold for an average of $3,033 at the Fruitland (Missouri) Livestock Auction.

Strengthening communities through art, innovation and creativity, Extension’s Community Arts Program is piloting an initiative in Lexington to help the community enhance its image with art businesses and opportunities that reflect the talent of regional artists and benefit a nine-county tourism alliance. The Community Arts Program is also at work in the St. Louis area, overseeing the Saint Louis Storytelling Festival, which engages approximately 25,000 people each year.

Knowing the value of dialogue with those it serves, MU Extension has made a concerted effort with the Mizzou Alumni Association to introduce MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin to extension programs, participants, key stakeholders and alumni from all corners of the state. These tour events, which will continue into 2015, are designed to foster understanding and support that lead to a stronger local extension effort across the state.

These are just a few examples of MU Extension’s focus on building for the future and continuing to making an impact in local communities.

I thank you for your support of MU Extension and our efforts in your community. I look forward to our continuing partnership and welcome your ideas for improving our partnership.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Ouart
Vice Provost and Director
Impact on Wright County, Missouri

The County at a Glance

 Population: 18,473

UM Students from the County in 2014
 22 students
   14 - MU
   2 - UMKC
   6 - Missouri S&T
   14 - Undergraduates
   8 - Graduates
   18 - Full-time students
   4 - Part-time students

UM Alumni Residing in the County in 2014
 117 alumni
   78 - MU
   21 - UMKC
   14 - Missouri S&T
   4 - UMSL
   61 Selected School Alumni
     4 - Medicine
     6 - Nursing
     4 - Dentistry
     5 - Pharmacy
     4 - Veterinary Medicine
     16 - Agriculture
     15 - Engineering
     7 - Law

UM Employees and Retirees Residing in the County in 2014
 5 people employed by UM
   5 - MU
 3 UM Retirees and Beneficiaries

UM Services Received in the County in 2014
 210 patients seen at UM Health Care, with $76,758 of uncompensated care.
 1 patient seen at the UMKC School of Dentistry with an average of $123 per patient in uncompensated care.
 25,141 contacts with MU Extension through MU Extension events held in district counties.

UM Alumni Teaching K-12 in the County in 2014
 10 teachers
   4% of all county teachers
   2 principals and administrators
   12% of all county principals and administrators

UM Footprint in the County

Wright County MU Extension Center
2015

Impact on Wright County, Missouri

UM Research Expenditures Funded by Federal and Private Sources

![Graph showing research expenditures from FY2008 to FY2013]

Between FY2008 and FY2013, UM brought in more than $1.1 billion in federal and private research funds.

Economic Development Highlights

- With $3.2 billion in total revenues in 2014, UM would have been the 16th largest publicly held Missouri-headquartered company in the state in 2013.
- With almost 32,000 employees in the state, UM was Missouri’s 2nd largest employer in 2013.
- In 2012, UM’s $165.2 million in federal research expenditures represented 94.3% of these expenditures at Missouri public universities.
- In 2014, UM’s $31.0 million in National Science Foundation (NSF) awards represented 91% of all NSF awards made to Missouri public universities.
- UM earned $10.8 million in licensing income in 2014.
- UM received 176 new invention disclosures in 2014.
- 4 startups were created around UM technologies in 2014.
- UM was issued 53 U.S. patents and filed 83 new U.S. patent applications in 2014.

Electronic Services to the State in 2014

- The Missouri Research & Education Network (MOREnet) provided internet connectivity and technical services to members that include:
  - 61 higher education institutions with more than 238,000 students.
  - 517 K-12 schools serving more than 846,000 students.
  - 132 public libraries connecting 335 library buildings that serve 5.3 million Missourians.
  - Serving the State Office of Administration, several municipalities and various other eligible organizations.
- MOREnet returned over $15 million in telecommunications expenditures to companies doing business in Missouri.

Financial Aid Provided to UM Students in 2014

- $888.2 million provided to 58,553 total students
  - $444.9 million (28,087 students) - MU
  - $202.2 million (11,887 students) - UMKC
  - $102.2 million (6,819 students) - Missouri S&T
  - $138.9 million (11,740 students) - UMSL

Impact on Education

- UM enrolled 44.8% of first-time undergraduates attending four-year public institutions in 2013.
- UM awarded 50.4% of the 1,210 doctoral degrees earned in Missouri in 2012.
- UM awarded 41.8% of the 1,890 first professional degrees earned in Missouri in 2012.
- UM awarded 53.6% of the 30,793 bachelor’s or higher degrees awarded by Missouri’s four-year public institutions in 2012.

Supporting the University of Missouri is an investment in the future of Missouri.

The university advances Missouri citizens and communities through its mission of teaching, research, public service, and economic development across our four campuses and University of Missouri Extension.

Prepared in December 2014, based on the best available data.
Data Sources include: Missouri Office of Administration • UM IRP • Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDA) • Center for Applied Research and Environmental Systems (CARES) • MU • UMKC • Missouri S&T • UMSL • UM System • UM Health Care • MU Extension • US Census Bureau • US Dept of Health and Human Services • National Science Foundation
Mission

Extension is an integral part of the land-grant mission of the University of Missouri System. It exists to improve quality of life by extending the University’s research based knowledge and problem-solving resources to the people of Missouri.

Extension Program Initiatives in Wright County:

1. Promotion of Economic Viability
   A. Economic Viability of Wright County Agriculture
   B. Small Business Enhancement and Educational Resources

2. Family/Youth Focus
   A. Health, Nutrition and Parenting Skills
   B. Youth Character & Leadership Development

3. Environmental Stewardship

This report is intended to provide information to the County Commission, University of Missouri Extension Council and the public about the educational efforts of University of Missouri Extension of Wright County.

Our office is very proud of the three-way partnership between the County Extension Council, County Commission and the University of Missouri System to insure quality programming for the citizens within our county. In addition, we acknowledge and are grateful for the contributions of volunteers, parents, youth, and area businesses who assist with development and implementation of these programs.

Your University Extension Staff are here to serve the educational needs of the people. Program suggestions are always welcome. If you would like additional information contact us at the University of Missouri Extension Center, 190 W. Rolla St., P.O. Box 458, Hartville, Mo. 65667. Phone # 417-741-6134
Grazing Schools – Twenty-eight producers attended the 2014 Wright County grazing school held at Hartville. Grazing schools are conducted as a partnership with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Soil and Water Conservation Districts. This very popular course helps producers improve in the areas of farm resource management, pasture growth and quality, livestock nutrition, soil fertility, grazing system economics, and matching forage and livestock production. Since 1996, 430 livestock producers have attended grazing schools in Wright County. During that time period 156 managed grazing systems have been installed covering over 16,000 acres. Ninety-four percent of grazing school attendees report greater profits through application of managed grazing concepts.

Advanced Grazing School – A one day workshop was held for producers who had previously attended a basic grazing school. The objective of the class was to provide participants with additional training in topics related to grazing management. Presentations included “Multi-Species Grazing: Opportunities and Pitfalls”, “Long-term Phosphorus and Potassium Trials on Fescue in Southern Missouri”, “Benefits of Converting to Novel Endophyte Tall Fescue”, and “Endophyte Conversion Economics”. Thirty-four pasture-based beef and dairy producers attended.

South-Central Dairy Grazers – This group met monthly during the pasture growing season on members’ farms for “pasture walks”, where they learned together about new ideas concerning forage programs, cow management, and facilities, and dairy economics. The group averaged between thirty and forty participants from Wright, Texas, Laclede, Douglas, Ozark and Webster Counties during 2014. South central Missouri pasture-based dairy producers annually produce 39 million pounds of milk valued at $7.5 million. These dairies provide a total economic impact of $23 million to our local economy. Pasture based dairy producers continue to be among the most profitable in our area.

Dairy Profit Seminar – Our annual Dairy Profit Seminar, held in Mountain Grove focused on technologies and practices for improving management of area dairy operations. This year’s meeting featured Dr. Mike Hutjens, nationally known dairy nutritionist who spoke on “Finding the next five pounds of milk” and “Economics of successful heifer feeding approaches”. Other topics for the day included “Trace Minerals’ Link to Udder Health” “Cow Comfort and Cooling”, and “Using the New Dairy Margin Insurance”. Fifty producers and business people attended.

Identify Various Plant, Insect and Other species – Various specimen are brought in for identification throughout the year. Pictured are “plum pocket” fungus and a true armyworm.
Show Me Select Replacement Heifer Program – This program improves herd reproductive efficiencies and farm profitability through increased added value for Missouri-raised heifers. Two Wright County producers were enrolled in the program in 2014. These operations have sold heifers for premium prices both through sanctioned Show Me Select sales and directly off the farm. This year’s sale was held in Joplin with 521 head averaging $2889. This is a means of adding value to member heifers but also provides access to top quality replacements for numerous other area producers.

Learning to Insure Your Dairy Margins Workshop – This workshop was designed to help Missouri dairy producers understand and learn to use the Dairy Margin Protection Program. This program is a new feature of the current farm bill. Workshop presenters discussed the rules of the program, how producers can benefit, deciding level of protection and how to enroll. Over fifty area producers, lenders and agency personnel attended this training. Subsequent to the workshop approximately ninety percent of local dairy producers have enrolled in the MPP program for 2014.

Hay School – There is a lot at stake when making hay and many management factors that lead to profitable hay production and utilization. This course is designed to cover all aspects of hay production including growing, harvesting, storing and feeding hay. Participants in the three-session Hay School learned about Forages for Southern Missouri, Hay Fertility Management, Economics of Hay Production, Hay and Balage Systems, Hay Storage and Feeding Management, Hay Testing and Interpretation of Results and Hay and Livestock Nutrition. Twenty-three livestock and hay producers from Wright, Webster and Texas Counties attended this short course.

Pesticide Applicators Training – Thirty-two persons attended private pesticide applicators training in Wright County in 2014. Successful completion of the course qualifies participants as Certified Private Applicators, and allows them to purchase and use restricted use pesticides.

Soil Tests - The Wright County Extension office served customers by preparing and mailing two hundred and forty seven soil samples during 2014. Additionally, assistance in interpretation of results and fertilizer recommendation are provided to landowners as needed.

Wright County Beekeepers Group Formed – A group of local beekeepers determined that this was the year to start a legitimate group of bee enthusiasts. With the help of Wright County Extension staff the group was started in February. They now have approximately thirty members and are hosting guest speakers and offering various classes for their group and other beginners.

Regional Horticulture Specialist, Patrick Byers from University of Missouri Extension spoke to the Wright County Beekeepers group in Hartville. Mr. Byers topic was about “The Pollinators” and how important the species are to all horticulture, agriculture and the earth’s ecosystem. He explained the proper use of chemicals and protecting the pollinators from highly toxic, moderately toxic and low toxicity insecticides and herbicides. Pictured at left are Mr. Byers and the Beekeeping group.
Food and Nutrition Education Program - In addition to the numbers, local success stories demonstrate program impact.

Nutrition Program Associate, Myrna Stark, wrote:
During the 2013/14 school year I worked with a very lively group of kindergarteners and, although they were extremely fun to work with, I was never sure how much of what I was teaching them was getting through. Recently, I had the opportunity to talk with the parent of one of my former kindergarten students and she told me that when I was working with his class, he came home one day and announced to her that he had tried spinach leaves, and that he liked them, and he wanted her to buy a bag of fresh spinach, which she did!

Nutrition Program Associate, Christi Crisp, wrote:
I was passing out a sample of Fruit Salsa at Country Mart located in Mountain Grove. This recipe is out of our curriculum Kids in the Kitchen. One older gentleman stopped by our table and wanted to sample the salsa. He said, “I took your recipe home, from the last time you were here, to my wife. We really liked the Homemade Hamburger Helper. So I think I will take this one to her too and see what she can do with it. We are trying to eat healthier and eat more fruits and vegetables.”

Twenty One attend Kids Cooking Class - Wright County Family Nutrition Education Program presented KIK (Kids in the Kitchen) Cooking Class on July 25, 2014 to area Grovespring and Hartville students. The twenty one students made their own meal of pizza, salad, and peanut butter parfaits and participated in a physical activity. Various skills used were cutting techniques, proper measuring of solids and liquids, shredding cheese and a lesson in manners and table setting presented by Ingrid Ragsdale. The students really enjoyed the meal they created. Program Associates Myrna Stark, Rebecca Smith, Amber Williams and Christi Jo Crisp worked together to make this a fun experience for them.
University of Missouri Extension (UME) Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP) reached 10,189 low-income participants with nutrition education in Wright County during 2014. 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.

**During 2014, 4,186 youths and 6,003 adults were served through county schools, community groups and agencies. The following is a list of the locations where participants were served in Wright County:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Agencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grovespring Head Start</td>
<td>Hartville Branch Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mansfield Head Start</td>
<td>Mansfield Community Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Grove Head Start</td>
<td>Mansfield Baptist Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grovespring Elementary</td>
<td>Mountain Grove Branch Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartville Elementary &amp; Junior High Schools</td>
<td>God’s Storehouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manes Elementary</td>
<td>Hartville Senior Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mansfield Junior High &amp; High School</td>
<td>Town &amp; Country 2463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Grove Middle School</td>
<td>Wright County Court House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norwood Elementary &amp; High Schools</td>
<td>Mansfield Crisis Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilder Elementary</td>
<td>ARC – Mountain Grove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Calvary Temple Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Calvary Temple Love Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Country Mart 2447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mountain Grove Branch Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mountain Grove Senior Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mountain Grove YMCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wright County Health Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wright County Children’s Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wright County Crisis Center &amp; Thrift Store</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 youth who participated in FNP, results summarized for the state revealed the following positive impacts:

- Two thousand, five hundred eight (2,508) teachers gave us feedback.
- 52 percent have participated in FNP for three or more years.
- 98 percent (2,461 teachers) reported one or more changes in students after FNP.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student changes reported by teachers statewide</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>90%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make healthier meal and/or snack choices</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat breakfast more often</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More willing to try new foods</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved hand washing</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved food safety other than hand washing</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased physical activity</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teachers’ Changes (self-reported) statewide</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>48%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make healthier meal and/or snack choices</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat breakfast more often</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More willing to try new foods</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Improved hand washing                         | 32%                                             | 67%                                               | 93%                                                              |
| Improved food safety other than hand washing  | 34%                                             | 60%                                               | 77%                                                              |
| Increased physical activity                   | 39%                                             | 45%                                               | 87%                                                              |
| Make/offer healthier food choices for students| 52%                                             | 38%                                               |                                                                   |

*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>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use the “Nutrition Facts” label to make food choices</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consume something within 2 hours of waking</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consume the equivalent of 3 cups of milk, yogurt, and cheese each day</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat more than one kind of vegetable each day</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat more than one kind of fruit each day</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise for a total of 30 minutes each day</td>
<td>43%</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>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thaw frozen foods at room temperature</td>
<td>75%</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>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compare prices before bought food</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shop with a grocery list</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

University of Missouri Nutrition Associate Christi Crisp visited Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Craven’s Hartville/Grovespring second grade summer school class. Mrs. Crisp discussed good insects and bad insects in the family garden. The students then created a ‘good’ lady bug from nutritious foods provided by the Family Nutrition Program. Stevie Workman is shown busy creating his beneficial garden insect out of nutritious snacks.
University of Missouri Welcomes New 4-H Specialist for Wright, Texas, & Webster Counties-In a big step toward improving coordination, organization and promotion of youth 4-H activities, University of Missouri Extension has added a full-time specialist dedicated to 4-H.

The new addition is Mountain Grove resident Janice Emery, who began her duties Sept. 15. After graduating from high school in Mountain Grove, Emery went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in communications from Drury University and a Master’s in education, also from Drury. She is new to MU Extension, and her official title is regional 4-H Youth Development Specialist. She’ll oversee 4-H programs in Texas, Webster and Wright counties.

“I’m really going to focus on increasing and promoting the 4-H program as a whole,” Emery said. “I want to see membership grow and let people know about all the great projects and activities there are.” Wright County currently has three 4-H Clubs, including a newly organized shooting sports project.

“A lot of people think 4-H is just for farmers,” Emery said, “but it’s a really good opportunity for all youth, and I want to get that word out there. One of my first orders of business will be to make contact with existing clubs, letting them know I’m here and that I want to help in any way I can. “I have a vision for the business side of my position, but I’d really like to hear from them about what they would like to see happen and how they view my role. We’re in this together, and that will make a big difference in our success.”

Emery said she has already spoken to some county 4-H leaders, and likes what she has heard.

“I’m already proud of what they’re doing,” she said. “It’s a shame more people aren’t aware of what’s going on, but that’s going to change and it will be awesome.”

“I’m absorbing a lot of information right now,” she said. “I’m like a sponge – but I’m really excited about this.”

Wright County 4-H clubs-offer long-term educational experiences in which members learn life skills such as decision making, public speaking and working with others. Members learn by doing under the guidance of adult volunteers, who teach projects ranging from aerospace and arts to veterinary science and sport fishing. Clubs also involve children and teens in community service, camping and educational trips. 2014 Active 4-H Clubs include seventy members from: Hartville Jolly Jump-Ups, Mtn. Grove School District 4-H Club, County Shooting Sports Club and newly formed Kritter Kids 4-H.

Wright County 4-H STEM Involvement—4-H Science, Technology, Engineering, Math. Wright County is growing future scientists. 4-H ‘ers are more likely to pursue future courses or a career in science, engineering or computer technology. Thirty-five of our 4-H members were enrolled in science related projects this past year.
Missouri 4-H Dairy Judging Team—Missouri 4-H Dairy Judging Team Excels in International Competitions

Missouri’s 2013 state 4-H dairy judging team, during competition at the national 4-H dairy judging contest, earned an invitation to participate in the 2014 International Dairy Youth Tour in Europe. In June the team, consisting of Steven Nelson, Grovespring, Bailee Whitehead, Conway, Tucker Peterson, Mountain Grove and Brittany Groves, Billings journeyed to Scotland, England and Ireland where they competed in two international judging contests. In Scotland, the team competed with other winning 4-H, FFA and intercollegiate teams on June 21 at the Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh. The pair of Steven Nelson and Bailee Whitehead placed second in the competition to a pair from Pennsylvania 4-H. New for this year’s tour, was a second competition in Charleville, Ireland on June 28. The Missouri 4-H team worked together to see how closely they could match the official judge of the show. Missouri 4-H again placed second, this time just 6 points shy of Maryland 4-H. In addition to the competitions, they toured dairy farms, agriculture industries, and other local interest sites, providing a varied cultural opportunity for the team. Team members really embraced the opportunity to travel and have new experiences. Not only did they see agriculture and the dairy industry in another part of the world, but they developed lifelong friendships with members of the tour from other states.

The 4-H dairy judging team receives ongoing support from Monsanto Company, FCS Financial, the Missouri Holstein Association and the Missouri Dairy Association in partnership with the Missouri 4-H Foundation, and thanks all their sponsors for their support. These 4-H’ers and Extension Staff were challenged to raise $24,000 for this trip. The challenge was met.

Local 4-H Clubs Help Sponsor Anit-bullying Program—Marshall the Miracle Dog visited Mountain Grove Schools. Marshall is the subject of a book and soon to be movie featuring his life story. He was rescued by the Missouri Humane Society and was in such bad shape from owner neglect and abuse that he had to have a leg amputated. Cindy Willenbroock is his adopted owner and the author of the book and movie. Cindy and Marshall have now visited over 250 schools to tell Marshall’s story about being bullied. There were 1015 students participating in the Mountain Grove assembly.
2014 4-H State Dairy Judging Team-The 2014 Missouri state dairy judging team members included Megan Fry, Mountain Grove, Tyler Kirchdoerfer, Cape Girardeau, Matthew Owings, Mountain Grove and Morgan Reed, Mountain Grove. The team competed at the Invitational Youth Dairy Judging Contest held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania at the All-American Dairy Show and placed 10th in the contest. Tyler placed 10th individually in both Guernseys and Holsteins while Morgan placed 13th in the Jersey breed.

The team continued competition at the national 4-H dairy judging contest held at the World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin. They placed 11th in a field of 23 teams as well as 4th in both Guernseys and Jerseys, 11th in Ayrshires and 12th in Oral Reasons. Megan was the twelfth high individual overall, making her Missouri’s latest addition to the All-American Judges Club. She was 5th in Jerseys, 6th in Holsteins, and 12th in Guernseys. The state 4-H dairy team is coached by Regional Dairy Specialist, Ted Probert from Wright County and Regional 4-H Youth Specialist, Karla Deaver from Lawrence.

Mtn. Grove 4-H’ers Participate in State 4-H Judging and Grading Livestock Contest--Danielle Green took first place overall in this state 4-H workshop. Pictured at right are 4h’ers that participated in the meats workshop and contest.
**Fry, Owings and Kirchdoerfer finish 1,2,3 at State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest**

Megan Fry, Matthew Owings and Tyler Kirchdoerfer finished first, second and third, respectively in the senior division of the Missouri State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest held August 16th at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia. Twelve points separated the top three finishers. Megan and Mathew are from Mountain Grove Missouri.

**Wright County Junior Fair-Grovespring had Eighty Six Youth Exhibitors**

Pictured above and at left are scenes from this ‘youth only’ fair. Showing and caring for animals is proven to improve skills development, appreciation of animals and responsibility. There were eighty-six youth exhibitors.

The 2014 fair had approximately 21 sheep, 52 goats, 49 cattle, 54 poultry, 14 horses and 9 rabbits.
Pictured are forty youth from across Missouri who participated in 2014 Dairy Cow Camp. Jaxen Holman from Mountain Grove Middle School 4-H Club was a member of this group.

**Youth Dairy Cow Camp** - Forty Missouri 4-H dairy project members gathered at Springfield, Missouri in May for the eighteenth annual Missouri Dairy Cow Camp. The 4-H’ers received hands-on instruction in grooming, showing, and caring for dairy heifers. They took part in educational workshops focusing on a variety of dairy industry topics and competed against fellow campers in showmanship. This camp draws attention to the importance of farming and its important role in Missouri’s economy. It provides youth a “hands-on” opportunity to care for dairy animals and learn about many aspects of dairy production while learning life-skills at the same time.

**D.O.W Youth Camp** – is a group camp designed for boys and girls ages eight to twelve. The camp provides a camping experience for one hundred twenty-one Wright, Ozark and Douglas County youth and counselors who do not otherwise have an opportunity to attend a summer camp. UME Youth Staff develop the primary camp program and Children’s Division and area schools recruit needy and at risk youth to attend this four day camp. Eligibility for youth to attend D.O.W. Camp is that they do not have an opportunity to participate in summer activities that average youth have.

**Missouri Dairy Judging Camp** – 4-H and FFA youth with an interest in dairy cattle judging took part in this event. They learned how to use the dairy cattle unified score card and its importance in evaluating dairy cattle. They learned how to take notes on a judging class and use those notes in developing a set of oral reasons for the purpose of defending their placing of a class of cattle. The participants judged twenty-two classes of cattle during the three-day event and gave six sets of reasons. As they practiced giving reasons and responded to critique of their work most of them made noticeable improvement through the course of the event. The reasoning and speaking skills they develop through judging and giving reasons will be useful for a lifetime. Fourteen 4-H and FFA members participated, four of whom were from Wright and neighboring counties.
Business Development In Wright County - during 2014, business development program specialists and business counselors with MU Extension, Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers assisted two clients with creating a new business plan and obtaining certification as a HUBZone business which will greatly increase the potential for obtaining government contracts. In addition thirty Wright County residents attended training events to better manage their businesses.

Arthritis Exercise — Twenty-six Wright County residents participated in the Arthritis Exercise program. This program encourages staying physically active as well as increasing muscle strength, coordination and endurance. Participants meet twice weekly for six weeks, then did the exercises on their own one additional day per week. Human Development Specialist Angela Fletcher taught this class in Mansfield, Mo.

Chronic Disease Self Management Program — Extension Human Development Specialist Angela Fletcher, partnered with Mercy Clinic and taught skills to manage common problems related to having a chronic condition such as arthritis, diabetes, lung disease, and heart disease. These skills are also useful for managing a variety of chronic diseases. Classes were held in both Mansfield and Mountain Grove in 2014, with twenty-two Wright County residents participating.

Money Matters — Credit scores, establishing an emergency fund and creating a budget are just a few topics that were covered in the Money Matters program taught in partnership with Wright County Extension, US Bank of Hartville and First Freewill Baptist Church of Hartville. Eleven residents participated, with 100% of them indicating they were planning to implement more than one of the skills taught in the class.

Emergency Food and Shelter Program-EFSP — Wright County Extension Office Manager Jonetta Shaver, is the administrator for FEMA funds that are distributed within the county through the National Emergency Food and Shelter Program. In 2014 Wright County was awarded $6468.00. Three public charities applied for the funds. The funds were used throughout the county for emergency foods, supplies and housing assistance.
MTI - The Missouri Training Institute provides continuing education programs in business, custom-designed training programs, and business consulting services for business and industry, public and nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions. Training programs cover human resource management, supervision, management, leadership, team building, effective decision-making, dealing with generational differences and business writing. The institute’s consulting services cover human resources, strategic planning, board development and board retreats. In FY 2014, 14,174 people from all 114 Missouri counties enrolled in the institute’s 510 programs. Wright County had nine participants. For more information, visit mti.missouri.edu.

MU Conference Office - The MU Conference Office provides high-quality, professional, full-service meeting management for a variety of noncredit educational programs, such as conferences, workshops, seminars and symposia. Whether a meeting is hosted on campus, in out-state Missouri or anywhere in the world, the office’s professional staff provides assistance to create the best learning environment for participants. In FY2014, the conference office registered 13,484 Missourians for MU Extension conferences. Participants attended conferences for teacher education in math, science and writing; agricultural lending; plant science; and therapeutic recreation. Wright County had fifty-five participants. For more information, visit muconf.missouri.edu.

FRTI - MU Extension’s Fire and Rescue Training Institute (FRTI) is charged with providing comprehensive continuing professional education and training to Missouri’s fire-service and emergency response personnel. The institute has a direct effect on the well-being and protection of Missouri’s 24,000 firefighters and the 5.9 million citizens they serve. In addition to preparing them to fight fires, courses prepare firefighters for medical emergencies, hazardous materials response and disaster preparedness and mitigation. In FY 2014, FRTI trained firefighters representing 113 of Missouri’s 114 counties for a total enrollment of 13,958 fire and emergency responders equating to almost 170,000 student instructional hours of training. Wright County had eighty-one participants. For more information, see mu-frti.org.

LETI - The MU Extension Law Enforcement Training Institute brings state-of-the-art, certified, professional training to law enforcement officers as well as continuing professional education to a wide spectrum of other criminal justice and public safety practitioners. Established in 1948, the institute has been the state’s recognized leader for more than 60 years in providing vital training and education services for Missouri’s 20,000 in-service and 3,000 police recruits annually. In FY2014 LETI conducted 75 programs with almost 64,000 contact hours of instruction. There were almost 800 students from 69 Missouri counties and over 500 from around the United States. Wright County had one participant. For more information, visit leti.missouri.edu.

University of Missouri Nutrition Associates also work with adults in each of our communities. Educational posters and literature are used to spread the message of healthy eating, meal planning on a budget, the importance of exercise and recipes. Pictured at left is an employee of a local supermarket learning about nutrition and budgeting as he plans for family meals. The displays are seen by hundreds of people throughout the county.
The Arnalls chosen as State Fair Farm Family - Jody and Lana Arnall and family of Hartville were among the one hundred and ten families honored during the Missouri State Fair’s Farm Family Day on August 11, 2014.

The Arnalls were selected as the Wright County Missouri State Fair Farm Family by the Wright County Extension Council and local Farm Bureau. This family includes daughters Sydnee and Taylour and has a unique aspect of being a Missouri Foster Care family.

Each year, the fair sets aside a day to recognize farm families from across the state who are active in their community, involved in agriculture, and participate in local outreach and extension programs such as 4-H and FFA.

Local Extension County Program Director, Ted Probert said he was very pleased the Jody Arnall family represented Wright County at the State Fair. The annual event was sponsored by the Missouri Department of Agriculture, the Missouri Farm Bureau, the Missouri State Fair, the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and University of Missouri Extension.

Pictured at left are University of Missouri Extension Regional Dairy Specialist Ted Probert, presenting local business man and farmer Steve Freeman with the University of Missouri Leadership Honor Roll award. This award is presented to someone who has contributed to the success of Extension Programming in Wright County. Steve and his wife Judy have been avid friends of Extension through their participation in events and educational programming. Through the years they have hosted many farm tours, spoken about their farming challenges and successes with classes, served as council members and have financially supported the local extension office during various projects.

Steve & Judy Freeman are chosen for “Leadership Honor Roll”.

Shown in the picture with the State Fair Wright County farm family is (from left to right) Dr. Michael Ouart, Vice Provost for Extension, University of Missouri; Mark Wolfe, Director, Missouri State Fair; Hanna Keene, 2014 Missouri State Fair Queen; Sherry Jones, Missouri State Fair Commission; and Lowell Mohler, Missouri State Fair Commission.
Pictured at left is the Missouri Century Farm ‘Jason Blackwell’ Family. In 1905 James T. Blackwell purchased 232 acres on what is now Hwy 95, Mountain Grove. Mr. James Blackwell is the Great-Grandfather of the current owner Jason T. Blackwell. Before Jason became the owner the property belonged to Charles Curt and Goldie Blackwell who established a dairy farm and later was owned by Jason’s parent’s Tom and Donna Blackwell. Beaver Creek runs through this 100 year old farm that is currently a beef operation. Many locals know of Patterson hole, one of the favorite and deepest fishing spots in the area, sits on this farm. Wright County Extension would like to congratulate the Blackwells for preserving a family farm for more than 100 years.

Wright County Century Farm Recipients, the Jason Blackwell family.

Pictured at right are State Senator Mike Cunningham and State Representative Tony Dugger with members of the Century Farm ‘Forrest’ Family of Norwood, Missouri. To qualify as a Missouri Century Farm the same family must own the farm for 100 consecutive years. That family shall consist of direct descendants of the original owner. The present farm must consist of at least 40 acres of the original tract and shall make a financial contribution to the overall farm income. This family farm was purchased in 1913 by William L. Snavely. Mr. Snavely is the great grandfather of the current owner Ivan L. Forrest. Mr. Forrest and his wife Sue currently use this original 131 acre tract as a beef operation which is adjacent to their operating family dairy farm. Delta Forrest told the attendees of the Annual Appreciation Dinner about her Grandfather William being saved as a child on the farm during a runaway wagon incident by a small tree that stopped the wagon. It is now a family tradition to gather at the “tree” periodically and give thanks for saving his life. Delta said that the tree was a small snag when it saved her grandfather’s life but is now a huge tree that all of the family have promised to never cut down.

The Forrest Missouri Century Farm Family with Senator Mike Cunningham and State Representative Tony Dugger.
Unique partnership

Wright County’s University 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 programs
- Elect and organize the local extension council.

Each County is guided by an elected group of citizens called the County Extension Council. These members are elected for a two year term.

Wright County Extension Council Members are:

Denis Turner-President
James Tigner-Vice-President
Helen Sanders-Secretary
Lesa Bowers-Treasurer
Archie Dailey– Mo. Farm Bureau
Larry Ferguson
Cody Holmes
Susanne Howard
Mike Sherman-Commissioner
Marcy Shaw
Burt Stanley
Alan Harp
Rich Rosenkoetter
Fred Vanbibber
Wanda Cope

Wright County Commissioners

Zach Williams, Presiding Commissioner
Mike Sherman, Western District Commissioner
Randy Pamperien, Eastern District Commissioner

Above: State Senator Mike Cunningham and State Representative Tony Dugger prepare to honor Century Farm Families at the Wright County Annual Extension Dinner. Upper right: County Clerk Nelda Masner swears in new council members. At left is Jonetta Shaver, office manager for Wright County Extension.
State, Federal and County Funding for Extension - University Extension programs in Wright County are funded by county, state and federal appropriations. Local funding for support of the County Extension Center is provided by the Wright County Commission. They provide office space, funds for office expenses, clerical salaries and travel expenses of extension specialists who conduct educational programs within the county.

Wright County Industrial Development Authority Board Funding Partner - During a time of financial crisis, the Wright County IDA Board assisted Wright County Extension through a special monetary grant. The IDA’s assistance made it possible for the Extension to continue to provide our county with educational programming during 2014 and also to keep the county Extension office open on a full time basis. The Council and staff would like to say ‘thank you’ again for their support of our educational efforts.

David Tripp  Steve Anderson  Armin Herrman
Max Pamperien  Mike Roberts  Glynda Dickinson
Tim Watson  Levi McDaris  Ron Shaver

University of Missouri’s Contribution to County Extension Program - University of Missouri provides salaries and benefits for one professional and two para-professional staff members headquartered in Wright County. The University provides in-service training expenses, including travel and lodging for staff, postage for staff communications and matching funds for computer equipment costs and maintenance.

Office is located:
190 West Rolla Street, Hartville, Mo.
Telephone:(417) 741-6134

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