

District I



Jean Dickman

I am interested in serving on the University of Missouri Council as a proud alumna of the University of Missouri–Columbia, where I earned degrees in Biology and Political Science in 1998 and a Juris Doctor from the School of Law in 2001. The University played a formative role in my education and professional development, and serving on the Council would be a meaningful way to give back to an institution that has had a lasting impact on my career. After spending twenty years in Kansas City and recently relocating to Camden County, I am eager to remain actively engaged with the University of Missouri community and contribute to Camden County.

I believe I can contribute to the University of Missouri Council through my more than twenty years of experience practicing intellectual property law and my current role as a Partner at Jones Robb, a woman-owned patent law firm, as well as my prior partnership at Shook, Hardy & Bacon. My work spans a wide range of technical fields, including agriculture, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, artificial intelligence, healthcare software, and medical devices, providing me with a strong foundation to contribute informed perspectives on innovation, research, and technology transfer. In addition, my pro bono work assisting high school students and individual inventors with patent protection, along with my service as United Way Campaign Chair for over four years, reflects my commitment to community engagement. I would bring this legal, technical, and service-oriented experience to support Council initiatives, programming, and outreach that benefit both the University and Camden County.



Sandy Nelson

I grew up at J Bar H Ranch, just outside of Camdenton. A Camdenton High School graduate, I went to the University of Missouri Columbia, receiving a Bachelor of Science in Biology with minors in Physiology and General Science. The following year I earned a Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling. Moving to Southern California, I taught one year and then became a Social Worker for Los Angeles County working with permanently disabled adults. After 10 years the field, I ran away to the circus as a flyer with the Flying Vienna trapeze group, touring Mexico with the Atadye Brothers Circus. Upon my return, and after a variety of temporary jobs, I became a photojournalist, Editor and eventually Publisher of a local community newspaper.

Since returning to Camdenton in 1991 to care for my parent's property, I have participated in a number of community organizations, including the Camden County Historical Society, Camden County Saddle Club, Sunrise Beach Little Theatre, and the Farmers Market in Camdenton.

Statewide, I was a founding member of the Missouri Farmers Market Association, serving as its first president. In addition, I became both a Master Gardener and Missouri Master Naturalist, being an active member of the Lake of the Ozarks Master Naturalist Chapter since 2009 and am the 2026 President elect.

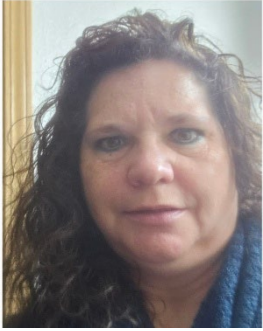
Presently, I am also Market Manager of the Farmers Market in Camdenton. As a farmer, my specialty crops, are garlic, chili peppers, heirloom tomatoes, cucumbers, okra, and squash. I have a strong interest in having fresh food accessible to all people at a reasonable price.

The phrase "An informed community is a strong community," is one that applies to all aspects of people's lives. MU Extension provides information and education to people at the county level on a variety of subjects that directly and positively affect their quality of life. It is important that this work continues and expands. I plan to assist in developing and implementing educational programs; give suggestions and ideas; help determine areas needing attention; and volunteer in any capacity where I can contribute.

District II

Lee Dobbs

I have lived in the Lake of the Ozarks area since May of 1987. I came to stay for the summer and never left. began in Osage Beach only to continue a modest westward migration to the very edge of southwest Camden County, where I have lived for 25 years. I have been employed at Macks Creek R-V for 29 years, initially as a paraprofessional before becoming a full-time teacher several years later. I spent my summers working as a park naturalist at Ha Ha Tonka State Park for many years. This position complimented my time in the classroom as I was required to give tours, do programs, and rescue the occasional lost hiker. My wife and I consider the Lake area our home. I have enjoyed being on the MU Extension council for the last 2 years and collaborating with the other council members.



Marilyn Emery

Marilyn Emery has been a proud resident of Camden County since 1999, relocating from Wisconsin and Illinois in pursuit of the highly rated Camdenton R-3 School District. Both of her sons graduated from the district and have gone on to successfully pursue their goals and dreams. After briefly returning to Wisconsin for three years to care for family-an experience that also reaffirmed her preference for Missouri's milder winters-Marilyn settled in the southwestern corner of Camden County, where she found her true home in Climax Springs.

With a strong work ethic centered around customer care and community connection, Marilyn's professional background spans retail, hospitality, patient care at Lake Regional Hospital, and in-home healthcare with Integrity/Phoenix in partnership with the Camden County Developmental Disability Resource Center. She now co-owns Measuring Up Improvements with her husband and serves as President/Director of the Climax Springs Natural Spring Hill Park Board. Deeply committed to community involvement, Marilyn finds inspiration in seeing children and adults come together to make Camden County a welcoming and supportive place to live and raise a family.

District III



Jeremy Rugen

My name is Jeremy Rugen. I have lived in Camden County, Missouri since 1996. I graduated from Camdenton High School in 2006. I have volunteered at several organizations in the Camdenton area. I volunteered at local church, lamb house, shared the harvest, and several community organizations. I served as a volunteer firefighter at Mid-County Fire for over 10 years and served a 6-year term on the board of directors. I was a firefighter at Gravois Fire and currently a paramedic/supervisor with Mercy EMS in Camden County. At the beginning of the year, I will be transitioning to a new role as a Registered Nurse in the Mercy Health System.

My children have started becoming involved in 4H and we have started a small farm in Montreal. Our goal is to continue to grow the farm as this is a slow and time-consuming process. My wife has served on the MU Extension for the last several years and I would like to take her place to continue to serve the community. I feel living in the area for several years and being in public service has been helpful in learning about the community. I would like to be a good listener and learn more about the community, provide insight to be helpful, and contribute to the growth of Camden County.