



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Gentry County

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



**OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR
FOR EXTENSION AND ENGAGEMENT**

108 Whitten Hall
University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211

PHONE 573-882-2394

EMAIL email@missouri.edu

WEB extension.missouri.edu

Dear county commissioners and friends of MU Extension,

The past year has been extremely productive for University of Missouri Extension and Engagement. With the launch of our county engagement specialist model, which is the centerpiece of a long-overdue restructuring, we are better positioned to serve Missourians.

Most county engagement specialists are now in place and the formal training for this new position rolled out this fall. By January 2019, we expect our CESs to be well on their way to success. I see a great future for them and the communities they serve.

At the MU campus, we have been busy putting in place online resources that will benefit Missouri communities. In particular, the All Things Missouri web portal is an exciting tool that can help community leaders search for valuable data. I encourage you to check it out at <https://allthingsmissouri.org/>.

When 2018 began, we set out to meet with every county's administrative body. This effort provided valuable insight and helped strengthen relationships; and as a result, we will engage in a similar effort in 2019. Meeting stakeholders and deepening county relationships is something we truly enjoy.

As you read your county's annual MU Extension report, I am confident that you will be pleased with the results accomplished through county-based University of Missouri faculty. Our faculty take pride in their efforts to respond to local extension council input.

At the state level, we have committed to a goal of doubling the economic impact of MU Extension over the next decade. This goal of \$2 billion in public value is ambitious — but, by meeting this challenge, we will help a great many Missourians.

Your support of MU Extension and our efforts in your community are greatly appreciated. As always, I welcome your input on how the University of Missouri can better serve your community and its people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Marshall Stewart'.

Marshall Stewart

Dear County Commissioners and Friends of MU Extension:

The University of Missouri Extension faculty, staff, and Gentry County Council would like to thank the Gentry County Commissioners for their continued support and funding for programming in 2018. The faculty, staff, and county council remain committed to carrying out the University of Missouri's land-grant mission – improve lives, communities, and economies by producing relevant, reliable and responsive educational strategies that enhance access to the resources and research of the University of Missouri.

MU Extension is a partnership of the University of Missouri campuses, Lincoln University, the people of Missouri through county Extension councils as well as volunteers, and the National Institute for Food and Agriculture of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

This report is a brief overview of some of the educational programs conducted by Extension specialists for the citizens of Gentry County. This annual report is not intended to give the full scope of all activities in the county or of those available in the region. Instead, it provides a snapshot into some of the major programming efforts offered to Gentry County residents in 2018.

We would like to thank all of our volunteers and supporters who make Extension in Gentry County a reality. Without your continued support, the Gentry County Extension Center would not operate at its highest level. We look forward to 2019, as we work to strategically address a wide range of needs that fall into three grand challenges for the state of Missouri and Gentry County: economic opportunity, educational excellence, and healthy futures. If you are ever in need of information, or if you have suggestions for programming ideas that Gentry County University of Missouri Extension could provide, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Kendell Misemer
Gentry County Council Chair

Sarah Wood
County Engagement Specialist in
Nutrition and Health Education

Educational Excellence

Gentry County 4-H serves eighty-four youth through three organized clubs and one SPIN club. The 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. 4-H youth learn by doing under the guidance of thirty-five adult volunteers who teach projects ranging from shooting sports and arts & crafts to animal science and healthy living. Also nine youth leaders were involved either with helping with projects, camp or leading the county 4-H council. Clubs are also involved in the community by doing service projects, attending 4-H camp and other educational trips.



Demo Time at Achievement Day

Volunteers are the core of the 4-H program. They help to create, support and deliver educational programs and experiences. Missouri 4-H volunteers report contributing on average 100 hours per year to the program. Valuing their time at \$24.14 per hour (Independent Sector, 2017), the contribution of Gentry County 4-H volunteers was worth more than \$84490 in 2018. More importantly, these individuals serve as role models and mentors for youth.



Recognizing retiring club leaders

Gentry County 4-H'ers are twice as likely to go to college compared to their non 4-H peers and they tend to pursue careers in STEM fields (Lerner & Lerner, 2011). 4-H is the only youth development program with direct access to technological advances in agriculture, life sciences, engineering, learning technologies and social sciences from the university system. This brings relevant science content and hands-on learning that helps youth thrive (Arnold, Bourdeau, & Nott, 2013).



Youth volunteers at Hundley-Whaley Harvest Festival



Recognition Night

Healthy Futures

2018 was a transition year for much of MU Extension. Sarah Wood, a Gentry County native, moved offices from Buchanan to Gentry County in September. She spent much of the fall getting settled in her new role and planning for the future. She looks forward to serving the counties of Gentry, Worth, Harrison, and Daviess

Library Lunch & Learn Classes

This fall, Sarah started offering free monthly nutrition and health classes at the Gentry County Library. These interactive hour-long classes focus on a new topic each month and will continue in 2019.

Youth Cooking Classes

In 2018, Sarah held cooking classes in Albany, Gallatin, and Stanberry. In total, 40 kids and teens participated in these programs. Over the course of 6 weeks, they learned about nutrition and kitchen safety while honing their cooking skills. At each weekly class, they prepared a full meal with supervision and guidance by MU Extension Nutrition faculty and staff.

Training for New Programs

Sarah earned certification for three new programs this fall. Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention, Chronic Disease Self-Management, and Diabetes Self-Management are new programs she is looking forward to offering in 2019



Katie Libby, Hannah McMillan, Marli Hilton, Parker Evans, Blanche Eckard, and Wyatt Taylor at Cooking Matters for Kids

Family Nutrition Program (FNP)

In 2018 the Family Nutrition Program (FNP) reached 325 participants directly and 205 indirectly with nutrition education in Gentry County; many of whom were low income. FNP provides information on nutrition, food safety, and physical activity for lifelong health and fitness by working with qualifying schools, community groups and agencies.

Youths from pre K to 8th grade learned through kid friendly, hands-on activities and lessons. Activities included opportunities for taste-testing healthy foods and practicing skills that lead to good health. Education for adults also includes nutrition, food safety, and physical activity as well as food resource management.

The FNP program brought \$9,449,699.00 of federal funds to the state of Missouri. The funds were used to provide nutrition education to 735,541 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and eligible citizens in Missouri. This year 530 participants in Gentry County were reached through newsletters, health fairs, food pantries, and the Show Me Nutrition help line.



Debbie Burke, Nutrition Program Associate, helps participants become more aware of nutrition, make healthier meal and snack choices, encourage them to eat breakfast more often, try new foods, increase their physical activity

and in general make healthier food choices. As a result, the participants are more likely to enjoy a higher quality of life as an adult and into old age. A healthy labor force is critical to attracting and keeping more jobs in Missouri. In addition, this important programming effort serves to reduce healthcare costs and over the participants lifetime, saving taxpayers money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.

Economic Opportunity

2018 was difficult for area beef producers. A long, cold winter left hay supplies short and pastures late to come on. Farmers also struggled with historic drought, pasture and water shortages and drastically reduced hay production. MU Extension worked to assist producers in a variety of ways in an effort to reduce expenses and help them stay in business.

Meetings were held in conjunction with partner agencies (FSA and NRCS) to make producers aware of programs available to assist with forage and water shortages. Over 100 beef producers attended the Albany meeting held on July, 25, 2018. They learned about governmental assistance programs and were also updated on utilizing drought-stressed crops as silage and forage options.

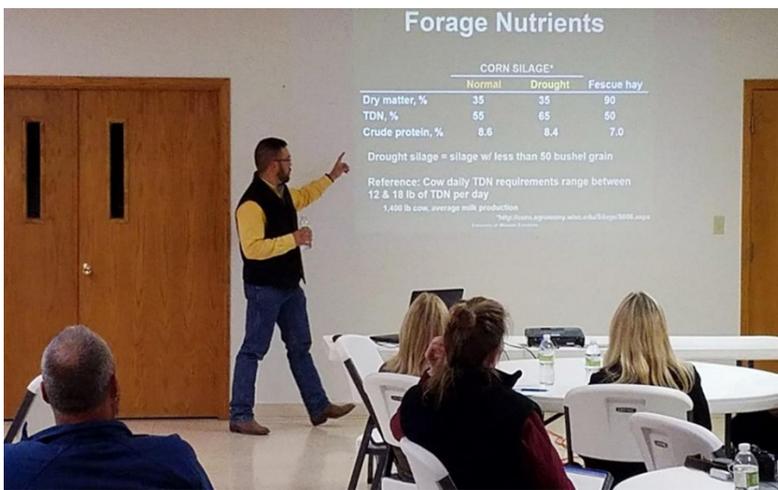
At the annual Beef Producers Seminar held in Stanberry, the focus was on feeding silage. Since many producers have not fed silage in years or perhaps ever, MU Extension made a concerted effort to highlight the proper way to manage and feed silage that was harvested as a result of drought conditions.

Area producers were assisted with nitrate testing of drought-stressed corn and sorghum-sudan crops to make sure that they were safe to feed as either green chop or silage. Presentations and individual consultations were given on the use of low quality CRP hay and baled corn stalks in beef feeding programs. Media outlets including radio, news releases and social media were used to reach producers with the importance of forage and nitrate testing these feedstuffs.

Utilizing the BRANDs ration balancing program, least cost diets have been formulated using drought stressed silage for beef producers in every one of the counties in the northwest Missouri quad grouping (Gentry, Worth, Harrison, and Daviess) and **in most cases MU Extension was able to reduce daily feeding costs by up to one-third.**

Ag Lenders Meetings

Agricultural lenders attended the annual Ag Lenders meetings in Maryville and St. Joe. Forty-seven lenders and ag professionals attended the meetings. Agricultural commodity and livestock market trends and forecasts were discussed. Tax law changes, current farmland values, and rental rates were also presented to attendees. At the meetings, lenders indicated that they finance 488 million dollars' worth of agriculture production in northwest Missouri. Gentry County and the entire northwest Missouri region benefit from educated lenders. Agricultural producers need knowledgeable professionals who know what market conditions are and have the resources to make sound lending decisions.



Dr. Eric Bailey, MU Extension State Beef Nutrition Specialist, visits with area beef producers at the annual Beef Producers Seminar held on November 8, 2018 in Stanberry, MO.

Gentry County Highlights



Missouri State Fair Farm Family

Alex and Jolene Kerwin and family of Ravenwood were among the families honored during the 60th annual Missouri Farm Family Day, Aug. 13 at the Missouri State Fair. The Kerwin family was selected as the Gentry County Missouri Farm Family by University of Missouri Extension in Gentry County and the local Farm Bureau. The family includes Alex, Jolene, Lexi and Russell. Each year, the fair sets aside a day to recognize farm families from across the state that are active in their communities, involved in agriculture, and/or participate in local outreach and extension programs such as 4-H or FFA.



Events at Hundley-Whaley

There were several public events that took place at Hundley-Whaley Research Center in 2018. Events included Twilight Tours Field Day, FFA Day, and the annual Fall Festival. Organized by Jennifer Miller, superintendent of Hundley-Whaley and faculty member of MU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and assisted by Extension faculty and staff, these events provided producers, students, and families with opportunities to visit the farm while learning and having fun.

University of Missouri Extension Impact in Gentry County

- **3,260** Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of Gentry County, including:
- **184** contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources.
- **3,072** contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance and youth development.
- **4** contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy.

Financial Report

Income	
County Appropriations	30,999.96
Gifts/Grants/Contracts/Interest	3,026.37
Resale Items, Services, Fees, Misc.	3215.74
	37,242.07
Expense	
Personnel Salary/Wages	20,398.69
Payroll Expenses	3,385.50
Travel	1,717.06
Communications	2,070.85
Rent/Lease Equipment	1,408.92
Supplies and Services	2,024.93
YPA Cost Share/4-H Expenses	6,320.95
Insurance/Surety Bond	215.60
Soil Tests, Publications, Miscellaneous	1,604.11
Total Expense	39,146.61
Net Income	-1904.54

Gentry County Extension Council:

Kendell Misemer, Chair
 Jim Grace, Vice Chair
 Raymond Schmitz, Secretary
 Josh Parsons, Treasurer
 Donald Eiberger, Member
 Ryan Messner, Member
 Dr. Steve Nickell, Member
 Chris Allenbrand, Member
 Bernie Summa, Member

Gentry County Commissioners

Rod Dollars– Presiding Commissioner
 Larry Wilson– First District

Gentry County University of Missouri Extension

1109 South Birch Street Albany, MO 64402
 Phone 660-726-5610 Fax 660-726-5701
www.extension.missouri.edu/gentry

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to Noon
 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Faculty and Staff Serving Gentry County

- **Sarah Wood**– County Engagement Specialist in Nutrition and Health Education (660) 726-5610
- **Shawn Deering**-Field Specialist in Livestock (660) 726-5610
- **Debbie Burke**– Nutrition Program Associate
- **Janet Sager**– Youth Program Associate
- **Judy Steinman**-County Support Staff (660) 663-3232
- **Jim Crawford**– Field Specialist in Agricultural Engineering (660) 744-6231
- **Penny Crawford**-Regional Coordinator Food and Nutrition Education Program (FNP) (816) 632-7009
- **Meghaan Binkley-Hopper** – Business Development (816) 844-7857
- **Joe Lear**– Regional Director
- **Andy Luke**– Field Specialist in Agronomy (660) 425-6434
- **Jackie Spainhower**– County Engagement Specialist in Agriculture and Environment (660) 425-6434
- **Katie Pemberton**-Field Specialist in Human Development (816) 279-1691
- **Becky Simpson**– County Engagement Specialist in 4-H Youth Development (660) 663-3232
- **Tim Baker**– Field Specialist in Horticulture (660) 663-3232