

## Monthly Report of MU Extension in JEFFERSON COUNTY: Feb/Mar 2019



### In February and March of 2019, the Office Support Assistants at the Jefferson County Extension Center:

- Received **230** phone calls, which included over **18** information calls for county government.
- Greeted and supported **85** visitors to the MU Extension Center at 301 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Hillsboro, MO.
- Sent our monthly e-newsletter to **751** working emails, adding appx **40** new emails to the list in March.
- Reached appx. **5,400** people through **37** posts supported by **1,086** post engagements and added **48** new page likes.
- Distributed over **1,873** pieces of educational material by mail, workshop handouts and community literature racks.
- Processed **79** soil tests serving **261** agronomic acres and **23,600** horticultural sq. footage (lawn & gardens);
- Assisted with **2** Insect Identifications.
- Sold **5** Plat Books and **1** Private Pesticide Applicator Manual.

Jefferson County Extension Center was closed Feb 28 due to weather and March 19 allowing all Jefferson County Extension office support personnel to attend the **MU Extension 2019 Spring Institute** training in St. Louis. The office conference space was used on Mar 23 by *Missouri Dept. of Conservation* to host a **Prescribed Burn Workshop**.

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### Mistti Ritter – County Engagement Specialist in Community Economic Development

- As CES, I have continued to train on office procedures related to the County Program Director duties including managing MU system staff payroll and county-related travel approval systems for new Office Support Assistants which started their positions on March 1. On Feb 5, I attended a recommended extension training on campus hosted by the MU Extension's **Missouri Training Institute** called *Lesson in Leadership: Supervising Employees*. And, the all-state **MU Extension Spring Institute** training on March 19<sup>th</sup> at the St. Louis office.
- We have encouraged and increased **engagement** through marketing of programs by working with staff to create a **monthly e-newsletter**, sharing extension information promoting upcoming classes and providing local & campus resources by utilizing the record of working emails from previous program participants, volunteers and community contacts.
- Additionally, we collaborated with other counties' field specialists to host local programming including **Pesticide Applicator Training** course hosted in our office for 13 participants proctored by Matt Herring, Field Specialist in Agronomy. And, MU Extension's **Stay Strong, Stay Healthy** class series conducted by Leslie Bertsch, Nutrition & Health Specialist from St. Louis with 14 registrants being held at the Desoto Library. (The Festus Library class location was canceled due to low registrations.)
- Additionally, each county's CES serves as MU Extension's **Community Emergency Management Program (CEMP)** representative and I have regularly participated in emergency management-related discussions and planning, including attending the **CERT Planning** meeting hosted by **Jefferson County Emergency Management** meeting on Feb 7 and shared **MU Extension FRTI** (Fire & Rescue Training Institute) resources. Additionally, I have maintained communication with Connie Burnham, Emergency Management State Specialist regarding flood-related resources and procedures. The office participated in the **State-wide Tornado drill** on Mar 5, and promoted **National Severe Weather Week** information on our website, Facebook and e-newsletter.
- I supported **4-H and youth development-related activities** by assisting at the county **4-H Energizer** on Feb 2, participating in the **Jefferson County 4-H Council** monthly meetings Feb 28<sup>th</sup> & Mar 28; and touring the potential site for the upcoming **4-H summer camp** located in Pevely with Melissa Scheer.
- I attended the **MU for You Conference & Extension Council Training** with Jefferson County Extension Council members Lynda Bartshe and Mariah Ward along with regional council member Phil Gebhardt and State Extension Council member Paul Klossner; the monthly **Jefferson County Extension Council Meeting** Feb 7; and the **Annual Dinner & Meeting** held Mar 7 at the *Jefferson County Civic Center*, I also was invited to attend the **St. Louis Extension Council Dinner & Fundraiser** held Mar 29 and was accompanied by Jefferson County Extension Council member Lynda Bartshe who helped coordinate our local annual dinner.







## Continued: Mistti Ritter – County Engagement Specialist in Community Economic Development

- Jefferson County Extension office support staff helped support the **Soils & Crops Conference** held Mar 16 in conjunction with the **Jefferson County Soil & Water Conservation District** by working with Debi Kelly and helping with all aspects of promotion, registration and conference set-up.
  - Additional meetings attended included:
    - Feb 18 - **Jefferson County State-of-the-County** address hosted by the **Jefferson County Growth Association (JCGA)**.
    - Feb 21 - **Growing Local Foods: Good Food, Good Business** statewide conference introducing to the needs of Local Foods growers in our region and state as coordinated **Metro Food Team**
    - **Mar 1 - Building Vibrant Community Partnership Engagement Summit** held at the Cortex, this Community and University Summit is a joint project that explored opportunities to engage in meaningful, co-created community partnerships between local campuses and nonprofit and civic institutions.
    - Mar 15 - **Hwy 21 Taskforce** meeting in Potosi hearing a history of the project and reports from the taskforce. **MODOT** and the **East-West Gateway Council**.
    - Mar 20 - **Missouri Chamber of Commerce's Tech 2030 Conference**. *MU Office of Extension & Engagement* reached out to the Urban Region requesting representation at the conference which discussed the state's **"25 by '25" Broadband Initiative** and the need for increased workforce in the Missouri's tech sector.
  - CES CEDs across the state, including Jefferson County with support MU Extension State Specialists in Community Development and Economics Steve Jeanetta and Sarah Low are supporting the development **County Connect Strategy** analysis looking at available local economic data, conducting interviews with stakeholders regarding the needs of the county, and developing a matrix of available resources and perceived county needs with a goal of being ready for review by late summer. Feb 14, 26 and Mar 24 & 21 – MU Extension Community Economic Development team remote meeting & trainings.
  - I am part of the MU Extension CED **Leadership Team** committee under the direction of State Specialists Joanna Reed Adams which includes working with this small group of CED specialists to develop further develop goals and projects for the division. Specifically, I am working to help a survey what community development programs and tools are being used across the state.
  - Additional CED work involves being a resource to help provide resources for understanding of Jefferson County's proposed **MS4 Permit and Storm Water Management Plan** per the request of **Jefferson County Council Chair Charles Groeteke**. Through shared communication with Ted Haeussler in the *University of Missouri Environmental Health & Safety Department* and the *DNR*, some general recommendations to improve the permit application process are being identified and shared with the County Council. Additionally time building awareness of county water-related issues including new FEMA flood-map boundaries, past and current watershed issues; and general flood-related resources available from MU Extension that may benefit the county and its residents.
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## Debi Kelly – Field Specialist in Horticulture


### Agriculture

#### February



-  Attended the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors meeting.
-  Met with the Ag Committee to continue planning the Soils & Crops Conference.
-  Attended the Jefferson County Cattlemen's Annual Dinner.
-  Started the Grow Your Farm course for beginning farmers. Session 1: *Identifying Values and Creating Goals* and Session 3: *Assessing Opportunities*. Session 2 was rescheduled due to the weather.
-  Met with our partner on the Beginning Farmer Grant, the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, to continue planning their piece of the grant, internships.
-  Assisted Matt Herring, Field Specialist in Agronomy, with logistics offering *"Pesticide Applicator Training Workshop"*.

#### March

-  Attended the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors meeting.
-  Met with the Ag Committee to continue planning the Soils & Crops Conference.
-  Continued the Grow Your Farm course for beginning farmers. Session 4: *Planning your Business*; Session 5: *Keeping Track of Finances*; and Session 7: *Rural Legal Issues*. Facilitated the Grow Your Farm farm tour at Sandy View Farm.
-  Met as the MU Extension partner on the Beginning Farmer Grant to plan upcoming events for beginning farmers.
-  Visited and interviewed the 2019 Jefferson County Farm Family.












-  Held the 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Soils and Crops Conference at Grandview High School. Kent Shannon, Field Specialist in Agricultural Engineering, was the keynote presenter on “The Use of Drones in Agriculture”.

### Continued: Debi Kelly – Field Specialist in Horticulture









-  Attended the St. Louis AgriBusiness Club Luncheon at Bayer Crop Science Division in Chesterfield where the keynote presenter was *Governor Parsons*.
-  Am on the *Congressional Staffer Agriculture Tour Planning Committee* of the St. Louis AgriBusiness Club who have met twice for this tour which will take place in August.

### Horticulture









#### February

-  Attended the Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program Training in St. Charles County that local area farmers can utilize at area farmers’ markets.
-  Continued mentoring Justin Keay, the new Field Specialist in Horticulture for St Louis and St Charles counties.
-  Participated in the MU Extension Search Committee zoom meeting for the Butler County Field Specialist in Horticulture
-  Participated in the Metro Food Team’s subcommittee zoom meeting to continue planning the statewide conference on urban local food systems.
-  Facilitated the “*Growing Local Foods: Good Food, Good Business Conference*” at the St. Charles County Extension Center. This was the St. Louis location for the 4-site location Metro Food Team Local Food Conference.
-  Met with the new Master Gardener Chapter officers to begin planning chapter activities for the year.
-  Presented at the Regional Farmers’ Market Workshop on “*Resources from MU Extension*”.
-  Assisted teaching the “*Professional Lawn Care Workshop I*” in Kirkwood along with Justin Keay, Field Specialist in Horticulture and Dr. Lee Miller, MU Turf Specialist.
-  Attended a zoom meeting with Regional Director Elizabeth Smith, some of her regional specialist and the State Food Safety Specialist on working jointly with Missouri Enterprise and the Missouri Department of Agriculture on how best to meet food safety as well as farmers’ market education to our clientele.
-  Contributed in the planning meeting for a Missouri meeting with the “*Connecting Drought Early Warning to the Decision Making of Specialty Crop Producers in the Midwestern States*” Grant in conjunction with the National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Wisconsin, and University of Iowa. The Missouri meeting was cancelled due to the weather and was rescheduled for March 13.
-  The 2019 Master Gardener course began with “*Plants and Their Environments*”.

#### March

-  Continued mentoring Justin Keay, the new Field Specialist in Horticulture for St Louis and St Charles counties.
-  Participated in the Metro Food Team’s subcommittee zoom meeting to continue planning the statewide conference on urban local food systems.
-  Assisted teaching the “*Professional Lawn Care Workshop II*” in Kirkwood along with Justin Keay, Field Specialist in Horticulture and Dr. Lee Miller, MU Turf Specialist.
-  Contributed in the planning meeting for a Missouri meeting with the “*Connecting Drought Early Warning to the Decision Making of Specialty Crop Producers in the Midwestern States*” Grant in conjunction with the National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Wisconsin, and University of Iowa. The Missouri meeting was held March 13.
-  The 2019 Master Gardener course continued. Sessions: “*Soils*”, “*Plant Propagation*”, “*Insects*” & “*Diseases of Plants*”.
-  Met via zoom with Justin Keay, Tamra Reall, and Corey Creed, all Field Specialists in Horticulture in the Urban Regions, to discuss Master Gardener Program and Chapter issues and how best to move forward.
-  Participated as a judge for the Regional FFA Competition in the Nursery/Landscape Division at Mineral Area College.
-  Mentored Cory Creed, Field Specialist in Horticulture in the Urban West Region, on evaluation and reporting in MyExtension (our reporting system).

### General

-  Attended the Jefferson County Extension Council meeting in February and Extension Council Dinner in March.
  -  Continued assisting Mistti Ritter with the transition of the County Program Director to County Engagement Specialist.
  -  Attended the Feb & Mar Office Staff Meetings
  -  Met with Craig Robert, the MU Educational Director, for my annual review in February
  -  Facilitated the Sustainable Agriculture and Research and Education’s Farmer/Rancher Grant review panel.
  -  Attended the Urban East Staff Meeting in February and the MU Extension’s *Spring Summit* in March.
  -  Participated as the Grant Panel Manager for USDA NIFA’s SBIR Grant in March.
  -  Attended the “*Community Connection Event at Jefferson College*” in March.
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## Melissa Scheer – 4-H Youth Development Specialist

- ☼ We had a very successful County 4-H Energizer (2/2). Clubs shared: Robotics, Fundraisers, Bird Feeders, Crafts; tie-dye t-shirts (Pictured), teens leading Healthy Habits, officer training, and this year swimming! About 50 youth and volunteers participated. Youth and volunteers reported successes about being a club officer, making t-shirts.
  - ☼ Several of our teen leaders are teaching **Healthy Habits**, a grant funded program where teens teach younger 4-H'ers about **health, nutrition, exercise**, and safety. The grant pays the teens an educational scholarship, an evaluator, and for food and supplies. I have been working with teens and volunteers who are leading 3 programs: with Fox Elementary afterschool program, with a group of Homeschool youth and a group of youth from both an existing club and the public. This is a grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation. I worked with students (3/11) and talked with volunteers.
  - ☼ **I taught 4-H 101**, the Missouri new staff 4-H training, with a team of 3 other 4-H Specialists. There were 21 new 4-H Staff from across Missouri learning about the details of 4-H work. I led sections on: Introduction of Youth Development; 4-H Culture, Name and Emblem Use, Judging; Club Basics, Legal Requirements & Risk Management; Planning the Club Year; Skill-a-thons (Electricity & Theatre Arts); Recognizing 4-H'ers; **Feb 6-8**.
  - ☼ I am very proud to announce that a Jefferson County 4-H teen has been selected to represent us at Missouri **Agri-Business Academy**. This selective opportunity is available for only 40 youth from across Missouri – congratulations Tad Owing! From Pro-Farmers 4-H Club.
  - ☼ I worked with my colleagues on the Extension Annual Dinner script and our County Annual Report. I also covered the office while staff were out on 3/13.
  - ☼ **County Shooting Sports** (3/2) new member training had about 12 youth and parents attended the training. I talked to parents about becoming shooting sports 4-H Instructors. I also attended the Hillsboro City Council Meeting to thank the city for the use of the Hillsboro Police Department Shooting Range (3/4). (Pictured)
  - ☼ We began planning summer camp. I visited our **potential camp** site (3/15) with Mistti and Jessica Mayer. We are planning to use facilities at Oak Valley Resort and Golf Course in Pevely.
  - ☼ I drove a group of 4-H members to the MU School of Veterinarian Medicine for a career tour (3/4).
  - ☼ Soils and Crops was the same time as Teen Conference, so I was unable to be there. I worked with Wendy Miller, Pia Broccard and Lisa Hunning so that they could take care of face painting, silent auction and sharing information about 4-H. I heard that it went very well. 4-H Council appreciated the support of the county!
  - ☼ We put in a lot of work with the **Embryology Hatching chicks in the classroom program**. 55 schools participate in the program this year. I trained Kathleen and Jody for the program (2/19). I trained new teachers (2/19, 3/14). We prepared incubators for delivery (2/26, 3/26) and pick up incubators and took care of them (3/19) and delivered eggs (3/5). A huge thank you to Wendy Miller and Mary Ann Gebhardt! For helping with pickup and delivery! Program continues in April.
  - ☼ We had two youth represent us at **Missouri State 4-H Teen Conference**, Pete Ritter and I also went as chaperones (3/16-17). Youth had a chance to practice teamwork, independence and leadership as well as learn about opportunities in 4-H and the future of 4-H and make new friends.
  - ☼ In person, 4-H Council Meeting was canceled again in February because of weather. The policy is that when school is canceled, 4-H events for youth are also canceled. So **instead we held the meeting via Zoom 2/28**. In March we again offered zoom as an optional why to be included in the meeting for those not able to meet in person. Items discussed included **4-H Camp, Energizer evaluation, and budget**.
  - ☼ I also **worked with Mistti**, (and/or Jody) on budgets in QuickBooks (2/5), to complete the hiring process for the staff positions, work with electronic timesheets (3/11) and payroll and budgeting (3/21).
  - ☼ Cornita Robinson who was working with **Jefferson County Youth Futures** through February, took another position and so we are looking at other options to complete and sustain the youth futures grant which ends August 2020. I worked with Donna Garcia, state 4-H Youth Futures Grant PI, to support the program at Bridges. Donna (3/13) and I (3/27) took turns leading programing in March.
  - ☼ I attended **professional meetings** via computer unless otherwise noted: MAE4-HA (2/1), CYFAR planning (2/4, 3/7), county staff meeting at the office (2/11, 3/11), regional staff meeting (2/19), Youth Experiencing Homelessness Committee (2/20, 3/20), Healthy Habits Staff Update (2/27), National Access, Equity and Belonging Committee (3/1), 4-H Category Meeting (3/5), State 4-H Team meeting (3/14), Spring Institute in St. Louis (3/19), Annual Review in St. Louis (3/20), State Director Advisory Meeting in Columbia (3/26).
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**Family Nutrition Education Programs - FNEP**  
**Gidget Mudd & Darla Wood, Nutrition Program Associates**

*First Saturday of the month May through October, Kids Korner and Healthy Change Workshops at De Soto Farmers Market. Finished up all of the programming at Crystal City Elementary and Crystal City Library.*

*Finished up Kindergarten at Athena Elementary and Pevely Elementary. Beginning gardening curricula with 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Crystal City, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 1<sup>st</sup> grade Vineland Elementary and 1<sup>st</sup> grade Pevely Elementary.*

*Gidget Mudd*

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>List curricula name (acronym) or SNAP Outreach</b>	<b>Youth Grade Level(s) (if not adult audience)</b>
<b>Feb/Mar 2019</b>		
Pevely Elementary	Show Me Nutrition	Kindergarten
Athena Elementary	Show Me Nutrition	Kindergarten
Sunrise Elementary	Kids In The Kitchen	6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Pevely Elementary	Show Me Nutrition	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Crystal City Elementary	Eating From The Garden	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
Pevely Elementary	Grow It Try It Like It	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Vineland Elementary	Eating From The Garden	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Vineland Elementary	Grow It Try It Like It	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
<b>March/April 2019</b>		
Sunrise Elementary	Kids In The Kitchen	6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Crystal City Elementary	Eating From The Garden	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade
Pevely Elementary	Grow It Try It Like It	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Vineland Elementary	Eating From The Garden	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
Vineland Elementary	Grow It Try It Like It	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade

*Darla Wood*

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>List curricula name (acronym) or SNAP Outreach</b>	<b>Youth Grade Level(s) (if not adult audience)</b>
<b>Feb 2019</b>		
Murphy Elementary	Fun with food and Fitness	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Murphy Elementary	Food Group Express	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade
High Ridge Elementary	Adventures in Nutrition	Kindergarten
<b>March 2019</b>		
House Springs Elementary	Adventures in Nutrition	Kindergarten
House Springs Elementary	Fun with Food and Fitness	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Maple Grove Elementary	Adventures in Nutrition	Kindergarten
Maple Grove Elementary	Fun with Food and Fitness	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Athena Elementary	Fun with Food and Fitness	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade

*The Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP) are an important part of the University of Missouri Extension- bringing the latest nutrition information to low-income Missourians.*

*University of Missouri Extension provides equal opportunity to all participants in extension programs and activities, and for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, genetic information, disability, or protected veteran status.*