



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Newton County

2020 ANNUAL REPORT





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

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December 1, 2020

Dear county commissioners and friends of MU Extension,

Few of us have experienced a year quite like 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought each of us so many unforeseen professional and personal challenges. Yet, as difficult as the last months have been, they have also called us at University of Missouri Extension and Engagement to think about our work differently and find new ways to serve and respond to Missouri's needs.

We are working harder and more innovatively to develop local and statewide partnerships and collaborations that help us improve lives, communities and businesses across the state. Through our four UM System universities, we are working to expand our state's broadband access and support statewide efforts to prepare our workforce for 21st century opportunities. This work is key to keeping Missouri's economy competitive and helping people and communities in every part of our state thrive.

We continue to expand and develop tools like the All Things Missouri web portal (<https://allthingsmissouri.org>) that provide a wealth of data local leaders can use to pinpoint county and community needs and plan for coordinated solutions. New COVID-19 tracking tools, for instance, help county health departments accurately assess the local impact of the virus and coordinate targeted responses. A new Missouri Food Finder tool (<https://mofoodfinder.org>) matches consumers with growers and producers to create a market for locally grown foods. The UM System Community Connect web portal (<https://community.umsystem.edu>) showcases the many resources, services and faculty programs available to the community through each of the four universities in the UM System. Please explore and use these tools. Tell us how we can improve them to better serve you.

Whether online or in person, we are committed to working with you to deliver knowledge, resources and programs that best meet your communities' interests and needs. I hope you see the impact of that work in this year's county annual report — just as you see your own hand, as key stakeholders, in making this work possible.

We greatly appreciate your support of MU Extension as partners within your community. As always, I welcome your input on how the University of Missouri can better serve you as we look forward to a brighter year ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marshall Stewart'.

Marshall Stewart, Ed.D.
Vice Chancellor for Extension and Engagement

Who we are

Faculty and staff



Eden Stewart
Nutrition and Health, CES

Julie Graue
Food and Nutrition Assistant

Dana Vangunda
4-H Youth Program Associate

Linda Howerton
4-H Youth Program Associate

Melissa Brunner
Office Administrator

Council members

David Allen, Chairman
Kelin Kruse, Vice-chairman
Nikki Campbell, Secretary
Doug Joyce
Jo McLemore
Kelly Shilling
Jennifer Thogmartin
Carrie Foote
Chett Daniels
McKenzie Conner
Taylor Walker
Master Scott Mize Hall
Jim Jackson
Bill Reiboldt
Patrick Ball
David Garnett



County commissioners

Bill Reiboldt
Presiding Commissioner

Alan Cook
District 1

Jim Jackson
District 2

Newton County



University of Missouri System
COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

UM System Footprint in the county in 2020



FY20 county students

116 students

- 87 Undergraduates
- 29 Graduate and professional students
- 94 Full-time students
- 22 Part-time students
- 29 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2020)



County employees and retirees

11 people employed by UM

- 9 Campuses
- 2 UM Health Care

9 UM retirees and beneficiaries

UM salary and retirement income: \$505,706

UM state tax revenue: \$12,528

UM federal tax revenue: \$61,318



County alumni

Selected school alumni

- 36 Medicine
- 45 Nursing
- 16 Health Professions
- 33 Dentistry
- 17 Pharmacy
- 5 Optometry
- 17 Veterinary Medicine
- 57 Agriculture
- 118 Engineering
- 42 Law

Alumni teaching K-12

- 26 teachers
- 3.9% of all district teachers
- 2 principals and administrators
- 5.4% of all district principals and administrators



County breakdown

MU

- 64 students
- 437 alumni
- 9 employees

UMKC

- 26 students
- 158 alumni
- 0 employees

Missouri S&T

- 23 students
- 109 alumni
- 0 employees

UMSL

- 3 students
- 22 alumni
- 0 employees



County population: 58,202



County services provided

Health care (FY20)

- 99 in-state patients seen at UM Health Care, with \$223,736 of uncompensated care
- 14 in-state patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$56.94 per patient in uncompensated care
- University of Missouri Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 31 visits to 26 patients having ZIP codes associated with the county

Extension (FY19)

- 13,047 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of district counties, including:
- 532 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
- 12,172 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
- 343 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy



Construction projects

- \$335,069 remitted to 1 county vendor, for 1 project



County properties and offices

MU Extension in: Newton County

Budget and more

Appropriations budget

Income

County Appropriations 55,000

Total Income 55,000

Expenses

Salaries/Benefits 36,059

Travel 4,000

Telephone 1,312

Office Supplies/Service 4,724

Purchase Land/building 6,000

Insurance 2,305

Capital Repairs 600

Total Expenses 55,000

Newton County



MU Extension is a unique funding partnership.

Extension funding is a three-way partnership of federal, state and county government. Federal and state money, through the University of Missouri system, pay professional staff salaries, training costs, computers and communication equipment. County funds support the local office, secretarial and youth assistant salaries, staff mileage and council expenses.

The Newton County Extension Council, faculty and staff would like to express our appreciation to the Newton County Commissioners for their continued support of extension programs.



Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to Newton County Extension with a gift to be used immediately or as an endowment contribution for long term efforts. Monies put into the endowment are left forever to earn interest with the county office benefiting each year. You can also direct your donation to a specific program such as 4-H or Master Gardeners.



Economic Opportunity

Multi-State Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities conference

The first-time event brought together entrepreneurs, business leaders, economic development professionals, decision makers, and community champions to strengthen and broaden regional entrepreneurial networks. 314 attendees from 28 states participated, and Missouri had the highest number of registrants with 93. Missouri hosted three sessions: Fostering Entrepreneurship in Your Community, Food Hub Growth Stories, and Leveraging Online Sales to Grow Your Business. Other sessions included:



Ten Seven Acres: Creativity During Pandemic Leads to New Revenue Streams (Business Strategies, North Dakota)

Collaborating for Meaningful Food Policy Change (Growing Local Food, Michigan)

Strengthening Community Engagement to Recruit New Residents (Community Development, Nebraska and South Dakota)

Memory Mapping for Regional Branding (Tourism, New Hampshire)

Designing and Hosting Virtual Entrepreneurship Events and Education (Supporting Entrepreneurs, New Hampshire)

Strengthening Trust in Support of Entrepreneurial Development (Community Development, Minnesota)

Preventing Destination Decline via Identifying Entrepreneurs (Tourism, Michigan)

Launching a Sustainable Innovation Space (Physical Spaces, New Hampshire)

Fostering Entrepreneurship in Your Community (Supporting Entrepreneurs, Missouri)

Business Succession Strategies for Community Leaders (Business Strategies, Minnesota)

Leadership Transfer in Rural Communities: Research Results and Implications for Rural Community Development (Community Development, Nebraska)

Adding Value to Local Food Systems through Collaborative Marketing (Growing Local Food, Nebraska)

Indigenous Entrepreneurship (Supporting Entrepreneurs, Minnesota)

Hospitality Innovation and Recovery During COVID-19 (Tourism, Nebraska)

Empowering Young Entrepreneurs (Supporting Entrepreneurs, Michigan)

Strengthening Community Engagement to Recruit New Residents (Community Development, Nebraska and South Dakota)

Growing Latinx Enterprises through a Community Focus (Supporting Entrepreneurs, Nebraska)

Focusing Communities through Data and Engagement (Community Development, Nebraska)

Connecting Farms and Bike Trails to Enhance Tourism and Entrepreneurial Opportunities (Tourism, Minnesota)

Food Hub Growth Stories (Growing Local Food, South Dakota and Missouri)

Connecting Farms and Bike Trails to Enhance Tourism and Entrepreneurial Opportunities (Tourism, Minnesota)

Empowering Young Entrepreneurs (Supporting Entrepreneurs, Michigan)

Strengthening Community Engagement to Recruit New Residents (Community Development, Nebraska and South Dakota)

Development by Design (Physical Spaces, Michigan)

Food Cluster Branding (Tourism, Minnesota)

Preventing Destination Decline via Identifying Entrepreneurs (Tourism, Michigan)



Educational Access & Excellence

Alzheimer's Association

This year the Human Development and Family Science Specialist collaborated with the Greater Missouri and Heart of America Alzheimer's Association to provide programming statewide. Specialist provided presentations related to Alzheimer's and other dementia related to 10 warning signs, effective communication strategies, dementia related behaviors, and various other subjects to educate caregivers. Through 28 classes they were able to provide education to 471 participants statewide.

Call to Care for Kids Conference

Amber Allen, Human Development and Family Science Field Specialist was asked to present to 85 child care providers at the Call the Care for Kids Conference on the benefits of using music in the child care setting. The purpose of the conference is to bring together Sunday School Teachers, Child Care Providers, VBS Teams, Children's Ministers, Foster Families and interested community members across the Southwest Region to support children and families. MU Extension also had an exhibitor table at the conference that handed out materials on MU Extension, Nutrition & Health, and Human Development to the 375 child care providers attending the conference.



Health & Well-being

SNAP-Ed Public Value Statement 2020

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) brought \$9,964,840.00 in federal funds to Missouri. The funds support engagement with 723,461 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and eligible citizens of Missouri. There were 3,209,545 direct educational contacts. This year we had 2,817,878 indirect educational contacts through newsletters, health fairs, food pantries, and the Show Me Nutrition helpline.

1,109 direct and indirect contacts were made in Newton County.

Participants in SNAP-Ed learn the importance of making healthier meals and snack choices, eating breakfast more often, are more willing to try new foods, increase their physical activity, and make healthier food choices. Those who practice healthy eating and are physically active are more likely to contribute to a healthy labor force and enjoy a high quality of life throughout the lifespan.

This vital programming effort also reduces healthcare costs over the participant's lifetime, saving taxpayer money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.

During 2020, 495 youth and 614 adults were served through schools, community groups and agencies. The following is a list of the locations where participants were served in Newton County:

Nutrition Program Associate, Julie Graue

Collaborating with Head Start offers the perfect opportunity for our program to teach the preschool garden curriculum. In Mc Donald County this winter, we offered nutrition lessons, which transitioned into gardening classes. The kids loved using the microscopes to examine the seeds. One student shared that he and his dad were going to start some seeds in cups and transplant them when the ground warmed up. Teachers shared they did not realize you could grow ample amounts of produce in containers. They really appreciated having the lessons and information. A few mentioned they would be getting mineral tubs from the local feed store and planting some produce.

School	Agencies
Granby Head Start	Help Center
Neosho Head Start	Monark Baptist Church
Central Elementary	Neosho Housing Authority
Goodman Elementary	Newton Co. Health Department
Neosho Jr High and High School	Price Cutter #24
Seneca Elementary	Food 4 Less #2157
	Newton Co. Public Library
	Seneca Food Pantry
	Teen Challenge - Neosho
	East Newton Schools Backpack Program



Health & Well-being

Walk with Ease

I was the instructor for the Walk with Ease program. This class was a self-directed course.

The Walk with Ease program was a self-directed course, but participants were provided with weekly calls to check on progress and provide motivation.

The walk with Ease class was promoted through Senior centers in Newton County, McDonald, and Barry counties. Furthermore, a short clip was created for promotion for social media pages. Lastly, I was interviewed on KSN about the walk with ease program.

Learning Outcomes:

15 of 16 participants noted they were moderately or a lot more active than they were before the program.



<https://www.fourstateshomepage.com/news/living-well/silver-notes-with-webwood-assisted-living-2/>

Eden Stewart promotes Walk With Ease on KSN TV

Cooking Matters for Adults

I was the instructor for the Cooking Matters named program, specifically Cooking Matters for Adults and taught this course at Lane Apartments in Neosho town. This course was conducted in Newton County. I marketed the program to the FNEP NPA who promoted it to the site after her own programing.

Participants reported a 60 % increase in how often they plan meals before grocery

shopping.

Participants reported a 25 % increase in how confident they are to cook healthy foods for their family on a budget.

Participants reported a 75 % increase in how confident they are to feed their family more healthy.

Customer Quote:

"I learn about different foods I have never used"



Eden Stewart helps a client with a recipe



County highlights

Newton County Fair

Even with the restrictions placed on gatherings, the University of Missouri Newton County Extension was able to provide a wide range of literature for fair goers.



Informational booth



2020 Newton County Fair exhibits

Newton County Fair Exhibits

Newton County 4- H was well represented at the 2020 Fair. Overall we had 66 exhibitors from our clubs.



County highlights

Missouri SBDC for Agriculture, Food and Forestry.

In the summer of 2020, a joint partnership between MU Extension and the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) created the Missouri SBDC for Agriculture, Food and Forestry. This partnership offers no-cost, one-on-one personalized assistance for business owners, entrepreneurs and farmers in Missouri. The center has a range of skills and specialties and serves all agricultural businesses with a particular focus on commercial horticulture, food and forestry, livestock and value-added meats.

Extension faculty who provide business counseling are located across the state to best serve the clients. They can assist with technical advice, financial management,

business planning, business model pivots, value added propositions and many other services.

In 2020, 179 clients were served statewide, 2 clients from Newton County. These current or prospective business owners received one-on-one guidance and support as they pursued COVID-19 business relief or other financial applications, developed or updated their business plans, evaluated their property's agricultural potential, and made decisions to sustain, grow or transition their business.

Hill n Hollow Master Gardener

The Hill 'n' Hollow Master Gardeners of Newton/McDonald Counties consists of 16 members. This year has been a challenge for us due to many of our outreach programs canceled. We focused our efforts on our local public gardens. The demonstration garden at the Neosho extension office has been our main focus. We put in a french drain to draw water from the front of the garden and finished it off with gravel top dressing. After conquering the problem, we planted 3 blackberry, 4 blueberry, 2 raspberry, and a mound of sweet potatoes. Our garden produced tomatoes, cucumbers, pumpkins, beans, watermelons, corn, and strawberries. We donated pounds of food to the local help

center every week during the growing season. One of our members Sherry McBride, established a beautiful butterfly garden in dedication to her mother. It started small and filled in wonderfully for all the bees and butterflies. She also donated a fountain, but unfortunately was stolen. Our goals this year will be moving some beds around to expand our vegetable production and involve our community with topics at our meetings.

Tami Prewitt, President





County highlights

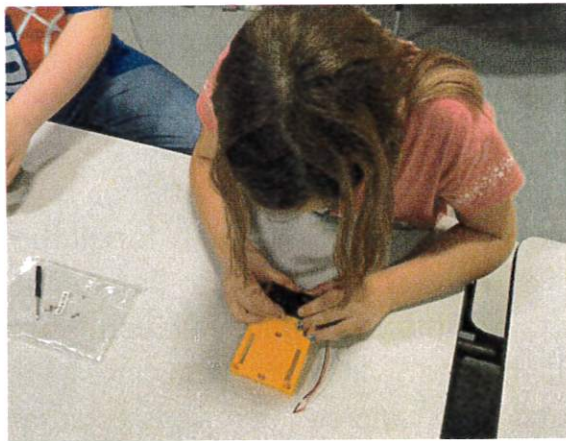
Newton County 4-H



Several of the 4-H sewing project kids made masks for area workers.



Newton County 4-H ended the year with a WIN. Two of our clubs were Neosho Christmas Parade winners: Grand Champion went to Lucky Clover and Best Civic Float went to the Busy Beavers.



4-H in the Schools

Trinity Lions 4-H works with students at an in school 4-H program. We work with students age k-6. We work on STEAM projects reinforcing the scientific method. In the picture you can see the 3-4 graders working on Mission to Mars, the national 4-H science project for 2020. They are building a robotic car.

Trinity Lions Robotics has received a Girl Powered grant for a VEX robot system. Students in grade 7 through 10 have the opportunity to build a VEX robot and compete in competitions.

County highlights

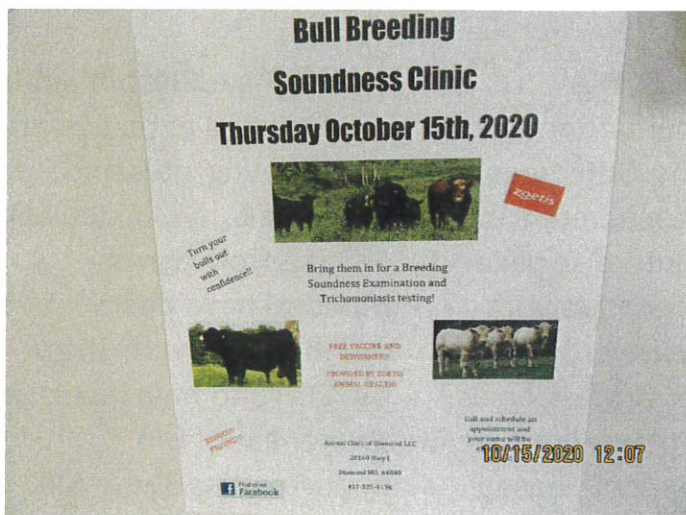
Livestock Happenings



Mouthing a bull at the Bull Soundness Clinic at Diamond.



Duane Walker, Neosho entry in the Missouri Steer Feed out.



Bull Soundness Clinic Signage, Veterinary Clinic of Diamond.



Circle S Chicks, Stark City Show-Me-Select Heifers wait to be sold at Joplin Regional.



County highlights

Soil Testing for Healthy Crops

The Soil and Plant Testing Laboratory analyzes soil, plant, water, manure, compost and greenhouse media. The laboratory provides quality testing and unbiased, research-based recommendations to clients for economically viable and environmentally safe nutrient management practices.

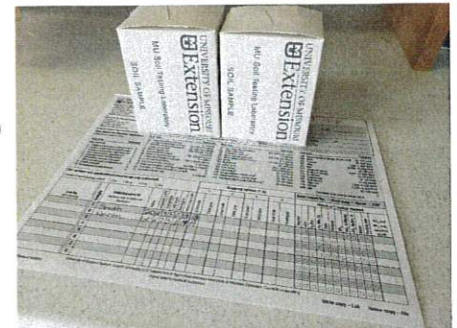
The fee-based services are available to farmers, homeowners, vegetable and fruit growers, lawn and landscape specialists, golf course managers, consultants, researchers and government agencies.

The services that we offer include:

Analyzing soil for nutrient content and fertility status

Providing recommendations for economical, environmentally safe and balanced fertilizer and lime applications

The Newton County office processed 208 soil and plant test during 2020



Each sample should contain about 1½ cups of dry soil from 6 to 7 inches deep.

Show-Me ECHO Program



Show-Me ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) uses videoconferencing to connect interdisciplinary teams of experts with primary care providers and other professionals. Participants collaborate in interactive case-based learning to develop advanced skills and best practices, which improves patient care, access, quality and efficiency. Show-Me ECHO learning sessions offer free

continuing education and are provided at no cost to participating sites and individuals. MU Extension officials from across Missouri have been collaborating with Show-Me ECHO to help increase awareness of the opportunities Show-Me ECHO provides to rural communities, as well as help increases participation in their learning programs.



County highlights

The 3rd Annual Farm, Family, and Me

The 3rd Annual Farm, Family, and Me – Summit for Women was held on September 3, 2020. Due to COVID-19, the two-day conference was pivoted to a 3 hour virtual event focusing on building resiliency. A total of 182 women participated in the event. Topics included dealing with financial and farm stress, self-care, and mental well-being. The event also included a panel of farm women who discussed the different ways they balanced their lives and work in agriculture. While the majority of the participants were from Missouri, 8 states and 2 countries were also represented. By pivoting to a virtual delivery method we were able to meet women where they were, while still providing them with relevant educational materials and resources.

On a scale from 1-5 (with 1=low and 5=high), participants rated overall conference satisfaction at 4.3. As a result of attending the conference, participants indicated the following:

Increased my knowledge about the topics – 60%

Encouraged me to find out more about the topics – 35%

Improved my skills/ability – 25%

Empowered me to develop a plan to address these topics – 34%

Validated my current practices – 36%

Encouraged me to make changes – 36%

Participant Comments:

“Farm, Family, & Me webinar yesterday was truly successful---that is my opinion! Topics were relevant, and speakers were outstanding. The panel closing the "event" were excellent--diversified, thoughtful, intelligent, seasoned women. Loved it!!! A very accessible well done virtual conference.”

“What an amazing and strong group of women on this panel!!! Such inspiration! It fills my soul.”

“Thank you to everyone for presenting at the Webinar! It was very interesting and informative!”

“So worthy of my time to participate in this! Thanks so very much to everyone involved.”

“Excellent meeting, well attended. I enjoyed the

webinar part as we all have busy lives. All speakers were great. Easy to register and get on webinar. More ag topics for women in the future maybe more often with this type of session would be great.”

“Great program, I thoroughly enjoyed it and look forward to next year!”

(Participants by County: Chariton – 1, Adair – 3, Audrain – 6, Barry – 2, Bates – 2, Benton – 2, Bollinger – 2, Boone – 10, Caldwell – 2, Cape Girardeau – 2, Cass – 1, Cedar – 1, Christian – 6, Clark – 1, Clay – 2, Cole – 25, Cooper – 1, Dade – 1, Dallas – 2, De Kalb – 1, Dent – 1, Douglas – 2, Franklin – 2, Gasconade – 1, Gentry – 1, Greene – 3, Grundy – 3, Harrison – 1, Holt – 1, Howard – 2, Howell – 2, Jackson – 2, Jasper – 3, Jefferson – 2, Johnson – 3, Knox – 9, Laclede – 3, Lawrence – 8, Lewis – 1, Lincoln – 1, Linn – 1, Livingston – 1, Macon – 1, Marion – 1, Miller – 5, Moniteau – 2, Monroe – 3, Morgan – 3, **Newton – 4**, Oregon – 1, Osage – 1, Pemiscot – 1, Perry – 1, Pettis – 4, Pike – 1, Polk – 3, Pulaski – 1, Ralls – 1, Randolph – 1, Saline – 2, Scotland – 1, Scott – 1, Shannon – 1, St. Clair – 1, St. Louis City – 2, Stone – 1, Sullivan – 1, Washington – 1)

Out-of-State participants – Virginia, California, Florida, Ohio, Kansas, New York, Illinois, and Minnesota. Out-of-Country participants – Ontario and Nepal.

County highlights

Private Pesticide Applicator Training



The Private Pesticide Applicator Training involves the initial training and recertification of Missouri's private pesticide applicators (ag producers). The need for training in the application of pesticides is of high importance due to both the legal requirements and a real need for technical knowledge. The University of Missouri private pesticide applicator program reaches into essentially each of Missouri's one hundred fourteen counties to train farmers on the safe and proper

use of agricultural pesticides on their farmlands, including restricted-use pesticides. Six Newton/McDonald County producers attended the program to obtain or renew their license. Online trainings were held in addition to in-person trainings, many producers also obtained their license via this route as well.

Tri-County Livestock and Forage Conference



The Tri-County Livestock and Forage Conference brings producers relevant, research based information. In 2020, 125 producers from Jasper, Newton and McDonald Counties attended the conference. Topics: Understanding EPDs, Dale Helwig- Kansas State University Extension;



Upcoming Forage Pests, Tim Schnakenberg- University of Missouri Extension