

# 2018 Atchison County Extension MU Extension Council **Annual Report**

Letter from the Vice Chancellor for Extension and Engagement	2
MU Extension in Atchison County	3
Century Farms	4
State Fair Farm Family	5
Atchison County Women in Agriculture program	6
Youth Learn About Technology in Agriculture	7
Atchison County 4-H	8
Atchison County MU Extension Council Engagement in the Community	10
Lunch with the Atchison County Commissioners	11
Pearls of Production	11
Atchison County Extension Council Annual Meeting	12
Extension Center Welcomes new Secretary	13
Agricultural Leadership of Tomorrow (ALOT) program hosted in Atchison County	14
Family Nutrition Education	15
Staff, Council Members and Budget Overview	16

# MU Extension responds to drought challenges faced by producers in 2018

The year was a challenging one for many livestock producers. A prolonged winter forced producers to feed hay for longer than normal. Reduced forage production in spring meant that less pasture was available for grazing, and hay yields were below normal. Water availability also became an issue on some operations.

Producers turned to alternative forages, such as drought-stressed corn, soybeans, and other annual forages such as sorghum-



A drought-stricken annual forage is tested for qualitative nitrate levels.

sudan, sudangrass, and pearl millet. A number of these forages, while providing tonnage and nutrients needed to address forage shortages, can also be potentially toxic. Extension specialists answered questions about nitrate toxicity and provided free qualitative nitrate testing to assess level of nitrate accumulation and develop an appropriate management plan.

A drought management meeting was held in Quitman to address issues that producers were and would be facing. A team of specialists from MU Extension presented at the meeting: Dr. Eric Bailey, state extension specialist in beef cattle nutrition; Wayne Flanary, agronomy field specialist; and Amie Schleicher, livestock field specialist. Topics included managing pastures through drought, extending hay supplies through supplemental feed, potential toxicity issues during drought and how to manage them, and strategies for effective destocking/culling decisions. Several producers from Atchison County were in attendance.

Challenges being faced by producers were communicated by MU Extension to partner agencies. These drought reports were helpful as decisions were being made relative to disaster programs.

Questions continued to come in through the fall and early winter as producers continued to deal with potentially high-nitrate feeds and needed assistance with balancing rations using corn silage and other alternative feeds.



Amie Schleicher, livestock field specialist, shares information with beef cattle producers on nitrate accumulation in drought-stressed crops during a drought management meeting in Quitman on July 9.

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.



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

December 4, 2018

Page 2

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 longoverdue 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,

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

University of Missouri, Lincoln University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Local Extension Councils Cooperating EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/ADA INSTITUTIONS

Dear County Commissioners and residents of Atchison County,

We are pleased to present you with a copy of the 2018 annual report compiled by the Atchison County Extension Council. This report is a brief overview for some of the educational programs conducted by extension specialists for the citizens of Atchison County. This annual report is not intended to give the full scope of all activities in the county. It is an attempt to provide information regarding the major programming efforts to provide educational programs to serve the needs of Atchison County residents.

University of Missouri Extension has had a long and proud history in Atchison County. Early records show the first Extension worker began in Atchison County in 1917 and there has been continuous representation in the county since the spring of 1919. While MU Extension has undergone many transformations and



reorganizations during the first 100 years in Atchison County, including the current changes initiated in 2018, the mission has remained the same: To bring research based knowledge to Missouri residents to help them improve their lives.

The Atchison County University of Missouri Extension Council and staff would like to thank the Atchison County commissioners for their support and funding for programs during this past year. In turn, the council and staff remain committed to improving people's lives by helping them meet the opportunities and challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century with research-based education and information. We do this by focusing programming on local issues identified in county deliberative group sessions.

Current programming efforts statewide focus on agricultural profitability and viability, building family and individual strengths, building human resources, business, community and economic development, enhancing health and nutrition, environmental quality and stewardship and youth development. The success of MU Extension programming in Atchison County would not be possible without the help and support of individual volunteers, groups, organizations, businesses, local and county government officials, and the research-based information provided by the land-grant university system.

We appreciate the continuing support that has been provided to extension as we work to enrich people's lives. We hope that this report provides a greater understanding about University of Missouri Extension's programming efforts in Atchison County.

Respectfully,

Flust

Dallas Hurst Council Chairman

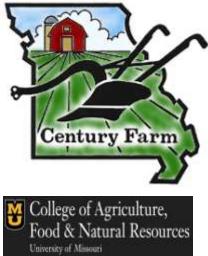
Amie Schleicher Field Specialist in Livestock

County Program Director Field Specialist in Agricultural Engineering

4-H Youth Program Associate

Amy Meinecke Office Manager

### Missouri Century Farms





Pictured left to right: Kylelette Carmean, David Carmean, Sarah and Jason Watkins, Jace Erwin, Dr. James L. Brown, Atchison County Extension Council Chairman Dallas Hurst, Janet Sue (Brown) Watkins, Missouri Farm Bureau President Blake Hurst, Eileen Irvine and Steve Irvine.

The University of Missouri

Atchison County Extension Council and the Missouri Farm Bureau were pleased to honor a Missouri Century Farm during the 2018 Atchison County Fair. The James Brown family of Smithville was recognized for two Century Farms in Atchison County. The first is a 40acre tract originally purchased by his great-great -grandfather James Brown in 1872. The second is for a 60-acre tract purchased by great-greatgrandfather James Freet in 1869. Both properties are located south of Tarkio on US Hwy 59.

You will see quite a number of the Missouri Century Farm signs in Atchison County. Guidelines used in selection include: same family must have owned the farm for 100 years or more as of December 31 of the current year, the family shall consist of direct descendants (if in corporation or partnership, one of the principal stockholders must be a direct descendant), and the farm shall consist of no less than 40 acres of the original land and shall make a financial contribution to an overall farm income.

The Missouri Century Farm program's history dates back to 1976 as a result of the Missouri Committee for Agriculture. The committee's purpose was to organize the American Revolution bicentennial celebration in Missouri. One activity that was initiated by the committee was the "Centennial Farm" project which awarded certificates to persons owning farms that have been in the same family for 100 years or more. A total of 2,850 Missouri farm owners in 105 counties were recognized as Centennial Farm owners. Since Missouri began the program in 1976, more than 8,000 century farms have been recognized.

In 2008, the Missouri Farm Bureau joined MU Extension and the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources as a program sponsor. "Missouri Farm Bureau is a proud partner in the recognition of century farms." said Blake Hurst, president. "We applaud the hardworking farm families that have kept us fed and clothed for generations. They represent an important part of our heritage and laid a foundation for the bounty Americans enjoy everyday."

There are currently over 125 Missouri Century Farms recognized in Atchison County. If you are interested in having your farm designated as a Missouri Century Farm, contact the Atchison County MU Extension Center in the spring of 2019 for application forms.



## Schlueter Family Chosen as 2018 Atchison County State Fair Farm Family



Back row, left to right: Marshall Stewart, Vice Chancellor for MU Extension and Engagement; Blake Hurst, President of Missouri Farm Bureau; State Fair Commissioner Nikki Whitehead; State Fair Queen 2018 Samantha Nelson; State Fair Commissioner Ted Sheppard; Christopher Daubert, Dean of MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; and Chris Chinn, Director of Missouri Dept. of Agriculture. Middle row, left to right: Ann, Aaron, and Matt Schlueter. Front row: Elizabeth and Josh Schlueter.

Matt and Ann Schlueter and family of Tarkio were among the families honored during the 60th annual Missouri Farm Family Day, Aug. 13 at the Missouri State Fair.

The Schlueter family was selected as the Atchison County Missouri Farm Family by University of Missouri Extension in Atchison County and the local Farm Bureau. The family includes Aaron, Elizabeth, and Josh Schlueter.

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.

The Schlueter family operates a 2.5 acre bedding plant business with family members Lee and Ryan Harms and Blake and Julie Hurst. Hurst Greenery grows and distributes bedding plants to retail locations, landscapers and municipalities in a four state area. Aaron, Lizzie and Josh, along with cousins Gabe and Abbie Harms, also raise hogs for Schlueter Homegrown Pork.

The annual event is sponsored by five partner agencies: the Missouri Farm Bureau, the Missouri Department of Agriculture, the Missouri State Fair Commissioners, the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and MU Extension and Engagement.

This year, all 114 Missouri counties plus the City of St. Louis participated, honoring nearly 490 people from 115 farm families.

The event showcases the impact Missouri Farm Families have on the economy and heritage of the state, said Missouri State Fair Director Mark Wolfe. "These families are involved in agriculture activities in their communities and are active participants in local outreach and extension. As the premier showcase for Missouri agriculture, the Missouri State Fair is most certainly the appropriate place to celebrate these families."

## Atchison County Women in Agriculture program a success



Attendees at the Atchison County Women in Ag learn about the 2BuyAg service connecting farmers to consumers.

University of Missouri Extension, the Atchison County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the USDA Farm Service Agency in Atchison County partnered to offer an Atchison County Women in Ag program on March 27, 2018. The theme was "Connect/Thrive/Grow". Participants could visit with local vendors and agencies at their booths prior to the program. Local sponsors provided items for a silent auction and for door prizes. A representative from 2BuyAg spoke to the group about the opportunity to connect producers with consumers. Sarah Wood, nutrition and health specialist,



Sarah Wood, MU Extension, shares tips for eating healthy in-the-field and on-the-go at the Atchison County Women in Ag program.

MU Extension, demonstrated "Smart Snacks for Busy People" and provided participants with the opportunity to make their own cucumber wrap. Julie Hurst and Lee Harms with Hurst Greenery shared helpful tips, tricks, and strategies for home flower planters. For the keynote address, Sarah Wood discussed "Healthy Meals In-thefield and On-the-go" where she provided tips on how to fix healthy, easy-to-prepare meals during busy times of the year on the farm.



Participants practice making their own cucumber wraps during the healthy snack session at the Atchison County Women in Ag program.

One hundred percent (n=21) of survey respondents indicated that they would recommend the program to others. Comments included: "Very nice", "Wonderful program!", "Fun time! Thank you for all your hard work!". On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being best, all components of the program were ranked at a 4.6 or higher. Plans are underway for another offering in 2019. Amie Schleicher, livestock field specialist, represents MU Extension on the planning committee.



Lee Harms and Julie Hurst of Hurst Greenery share tips for successful flower planters at the Atchison County Women in Ag program.

# Youth Learn About Technology in Agriculture

Three hundred thirty-two high school students and 26 teachers/chaperones from nine area schools attended the annual Student Ag Day at the Graves-Chapple Research Center on September 15. The goal for the event is to show some of the various aspects of agriculture to demonstrate to our youth there are many career opportunities in agriculture and that agriculture is more than just raising crops and livestock.



MU Extension Field Specialist in Agronomy Wayne Flanary explains to students the effect of drought on corn and soybeans and how these crops respond.

Each learning station was designed to provide hands-on learning opportunities for the students on some of the cutting-edge technology and practices used in today's agriculture and how it affects their everyday lives.

The learning stations were:

- Scouting Fields at Lower Altitudes with Drones - Kent Shannon, MU Extension Field Specialist in Agricultural Engineering
- Opportunities in agriculture at the University of Missouri - Julie Scroggs, MU CAFNR
- Dealing with Drought: Forages and Feeds -Amie Schleicher, MU Extension Field Specialist in Livestock
- The Many Facets of Tomato Production-Tom Fowler, MU Extension Field Specialist in Horticulture
- Grain Bin Safety Jim Humphrey, MU Extension Field Specialist in Livestock
- How Do Corn and Soybeans Respond to Drought? - Wayne Flanary, MU Extension Field Specialist in Agronomy

- Weeds are Plants, Too! Andy Luke, MU Extension Field Specialist in Agronomy
- Large Animal Safety Shawn Deering, MU Extension Field Specialist in Livestock
- Torq'n Tigers, MU's award winning quarter scale pulling tractor student organization -Matt Reidenbach, MU Student
- Modern Beekeeping Raymond Heldenbrand, Professional beekeeper

advisory board vice-chair

 Field tour highlighting some of research at the center - Steve Klute, GCRC advisory board chair and Russell Herron, GCRC

A lunch of hotdogs and hamburgers was provided by the research center and local area businesses and prepared by the Rock Port Rotary club. Volunteers from the Atchison County MU Extension council helped serve the meal.

All the participants were asked to complete a questionnaire after the event to gauge their understanding of the topics both before and after the event using the following scale: 1 - no knowledge, 2 - some knowledge, 3 - average knowledge, 4 - above average knowledge, 5 - excellent knowledge.

The average score before the field day was a 2.6 and after was a 3.7, which is a 47% increase in knowledge of the topics after the event. This indicates a good transfer of knowledge occurred during the workshop.

Amie Schleicher, MU Extension Field Specialist in Livestock, explains the effect drought has on livestock forages and feed.



# Atchison County 4-H



Summer reading program about honeybees.

A community of, 277 4-H members participated in building life skills, contributing to their community and becoming college and career ready.

Findings from a 2018 evaluation study reveals that Missouri 4-H:

### Develops Leadership

- 81% of the Missouri 4-H'ers surveyed said they find it easy to speak up in a group.
- 89% reported feeling comfortable being a leader.
- 95% said 4-H is a place where they get to help make group decisions.
- 95% said 4-H is a place where you have a chance to be a leader.
- 97% said 4-H is a place where you learn about ways to help your community

### **Builds Initiative**

- 92% of Missouri 4-H'ers surveyed said they are willing to try something they might get wrong.
- 93% said they keep trying until they reach their goals.
- 97% said they try to learn from their mistakes.
- 98% said they are willing to work hard on something difficult.
- 99% reported that they like to learn new things.

### **Builds Connections for a Bright Future**

- 92% said they like to learn about people who are different from them, and get along.
- 93% said they think about others feelings before they say something

- 93% say they think about how their choices affect others.
- 97% said they treat others the way they want to be treated.
- 98% said they show respect for others ideas.

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). In 2018, Missouri 4-H connected 4,818 young people to University of Missouri campuses. Being on campus is a predictor of youth going onto higher education (Dalton & St. John, 2016).



Fairfax kindergarten.

4-H also prepares youth for the work place. Youth must be prepared to live and work in a world we cannot completely envision – competing for jobs that do not yet exist, using technologies that have not yet been invented to solve problems that have yet to be identified. 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). In Atchison County a total of 671 were engaged in projects and experiences.

4-H school programs 4-H participants = 124

(Continued on page 9)

Atchison County 4-H school programs are educational experiences that supplement learning in the classroom. Teachers, 4-H volunteers or 4-H staff lead these activities. The most popular 4-H school program in Atchison County is the 4-H Take A Stand program. This program teaches youth about communication, teamwork, manners, diversity and cultural awareness, and problem solving. Youth also enjoy the embryology program in the kindergarten classroom.



Lucky Clover club.

### 110 Youth Enrolled in Local Clubs

Atchison 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 computers science and arts to animal science and healthy living. Clubs also involve youth in community service, camping and educational trips. 4-H Clubs in Atchison County include Farmer City, Lucky Clover, Atchison County Robotics, and Wolverines.

These clubs participated in annual events such as recognition, Achievement Day, county fair, fair board fish fry, family carnival night (open to the public), and National 4-H Week.

### *4-H SPIN and special-interest programs 4-H participants = 43*

Atchison County 4-H SPIN and special-interest clubs and programs include community partnerships and events, day camps and other educational activities. In 2018 two workshops were hosted where youth learned about woodworking and cake decorating. Two babysitting certification classes and a summer reading program with the theme of honeybees were held. This year Atchison County held its first official SPIN club with a theme of spa treatments and relaxation. We are looking



Carnival royalty Josie King and Cowen O'Riley.

forward to more SPIN clubs in the future. **4-H members supported by 12 adult volunteers** 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 Atchison County 4-H volunteers was worth more than \$28,968.00 in 2018. More importantly, these individuals serve as role models and mentors for youth.

#### References:

Arnold, M., Bourdeau, V., & Nott, B. (2013). Measuring science inquiry skills in youth development programs: The Science Process Skills Inventory, *Journal of Youth Development*, 8(1).

Dalton, R., & St. John, E. (2016). *College for every student: A practitioner's guide to building college and career readiness.* New York, NY: Routledge.

Independent Sector (2017). Independent sector releases new value of volunteer time of \$24.14 per hour. Retrieved from http://independentsector.org/newspost/value-volunteer-time/

Lerner, R.M., Lerner, J.V. (2011). The positive development of youth: Report of the findings from the first seven years of the 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development. Retrieved from <u>http://www.4-horg/about/</u> youth-development-research/

U.S. News and World Report (2011). How Higher Education Affects Lifetime Salary. Retrieved from https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/ articles/2011/08/05/how-higher-education-affectslifetime-salary

# Atchison County MU Extension Council Engagement in the Community



Atchison County MU Extension Council members sell homemade corn dogs and bottled water during the Fairfax Fair.

The Atchison County MU Extension Council of elected and appointed citizens help guide local educational programming. County council members are partners in the educational process, from needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes.

The council works with regional specialists to provide the county educational program, manage finances of local extension operations, provide personnel to carry out extension activities, and elect and organize the local extension council. They also serve as the interface between MU Extension and elected representatives in local and state government.

As partners with MU Extension, the extension council serves as advocates for their programs. Part of that is engaging in community activities to help promote MU Extension.

In 2018, the Atchison County MU Extension Council entered floats into all three county parades: the Tarkio Rodeo, Atchison County Fair and the Fairfax Fair. The floats were decorated to promote some of the many services and programs extension offers to citizens. Council members, members of their families and county faculty and staff rode on the floats throwing candy and other MU Extension memorabilia to the crowd.



Council members, family, friends, extension faculty and staff ride the float advertising MU Extension programs during the Tarkio Rodeo Parade.

The council also operated the "Feed Bunk" during the Atchison County Fair providing breakfast, lunch and dinner to attendees during the fair. They also sold homemade corn dogs during the Fairfax Fair. These activities also serve as fundraisers to help provide local support for county programs.



### Page 10

## Lunch with the Atchison County Commissioners

The Atchison County MU Extension Council officers, faculty and staff enjoyed the company of the county commissioners and county clerk for a luncheon on January 4 continuing a tradition started in the 1960's.



Sam O'Riley, 4-H youth program associate, talks about the 4-H program and clubs in Atchison County.

The luncheon provides a casual setting to thank the commissioners for their support of the extension program in Atchison County. It also allows the faculty and staff to give brief highlights of some of the programs held in the county and their impacts. Extension faculty and staff deliver a broad range of programs to very diverse audiences throughout the year. Sharing this information with the commissioners and the county clerk give them a better opportunity to see some of the results their funding provides.



Field Specialist in Livestock Amie Schleicher shares some of her program impacts with the attendees at the luncheon.



Field Specialist in Agricultural Engineering Jim Crawford talks about some of the engagement activities the Atchison County MU Extension Council participated in during 2017.

# Sixty-four attend Pearls of Production: Women in Ag Conference

Atchison County Field Specialist in Livestock Amie Schleicher, co-organized and attended the 2018 Pearls of Production: Women in Ag Conference. Sessions on biosecurity, beef reproduction/nutrition, ergonomic tools and tractor operation headlined the event. In addition, the group toured Stanton Brothers Farm in Centralia, the largest cage-free egg operation in the U.S. As 31% of its farmers, women serve a critical role in growing MO ag.



## Atchison County Extension Council Annual Meeting and Dinner

The annual meeting and dinner of the Atchison County MU Extension Council, held on February 6 at the Velma Houts Fair Building in Rock Port, was an opportunity to honor MU Extension supporters, recognize the service of outgoing extension council members and welcome incoming members, and enjoy dinner and a guest speaker presentation, followed by the regular monthly meeting of the council. Twenty-three extension council members, extension faculty and staff, and guests were in attendance.

Each year, the faculty and staff in the MU Extension office recognize leaders for their service to extension at the annual meeting. The honorees for 2018 were Julie and Steve Joesting of Tarkio, Missouri.



Julie Joesting (left) receives her Leaders Honor Roll certificate from Sam O'Riley (right), 4-H youth program associate.

When presenting Julie with her Leaders Honor Roll certificate, Sam O'Riley related some of her first experiences working with Julie on the 4H program. "I always thought I was a somewhat organized person until I met Julie. She has kept records for years for the 4-H Council and I could always count on her to know just where something was and what was said. I recently went through all of our files in my office and could tell the years that Julie was keeping records. So precise and organized. I remember when I first started she had emailed me at one point a lot of records to study to catch me up on how things worked. That meant so much to know that she was there to help when I needed her. I have always seen Julie as a very forward thinker who wanted more then anything for our county to grow and succeed in 4-H."



Sam O'Riley (left), 4-H youth program associate, presents Steve Joesting (right) with his Leaders Honor Roll certificate.

Sam also presented Steve with his Leaders Honor Roll certificate stating: "I remember the first time I saw Steve at a county 4-H council meeting. Our youth in the council run the council as well as the meeting and parliamentary procedure is a sometimes a hard thing for us to learn and keep straight; imagine how it can be for a child. He had such patience with them and was very encouraging to the youth learning how to run a meeting."

The Leaders Honor Roll program is intended to honor outstanding University of Missouri Extension community lay leaders who have

(Continued on page 13)

### 2018 Atchison County

excelled in supporting or co-teaching named programs.



Retiring council member Dennis Martin receives his council membership certificate from County Program Director Jim Crawford.

Council members that had reached their term limits on the council were recognized for their contributions during their time on the council. Council members recognized were Dennis Martin, Krys Carlock and Richard Stephens. New members to the council, Devon Sons, Tony Stepp, and Leslie Sutter, were also recognized.



Local farmer Bobby Vette talks about his experiences as a landowner working with the wind turbine companies from contract negotiation, to construction and day-to-day operations.

The program for the evening was a round table discussion about the wind farms in the county, their advantages and disadvantages with perspectives from the county commissioners and local land owners. Due to a last minute scheduling conflict, none of the commissioners could attend the meeting so they asked Jim Crawford to share the economic impact the wind farms were having on the county. Local farmer and land owner Bobby Vette then talked about his experiences with the wind farms. A very good question and answer and discussion with the attendees followed the presentations.

### Atchison County MU Extension Center Welcomes New Secretary



Amy Meinecke of Rock Port joined the MU Extension in Atchison County team as their new secretary/office manager in January 2018. Amy comes to the position with four years experience in office management. Some may recognize her from her role as customer service representative with State Farm Insurance.

A native of Nebraska, she has lived in the Rock Port area since 1999 when she married her husband, Stephen Meinecke. Both are proud parents of son, Joshua, and daughter, Katelyn. Amy also enjoys leading the local Rock Port Girl Scout troop and volunteering in church activities. When asked how she is liking her new role so far, she replied: *"I love my job. It's challenging and I really love interacting with the folks who come in. I'm also getting the opportunity to learn so much more about our farming community and all that extension has to offer."* 

## Agricultural Leadership of Tomorrow (ALOT) program hosted by MU Extension in Atchison County



The Agricultural Leadership of Tomorrow (ALOT) program visits a wind farm in Atchison County, hosted by Amie Schleicher, MU Extension, in March 2018.

The Agricultural Leadership of Tomorrow (ALOT) program, a premier, twoyear leadership program made up of 25 individuals with interest in ag issues and selected for their leadership potential, visited Atchison County on March 23 during its multiday session in northwest Missouri. Amie Schleicher, livestock field specialist, was a member of class XIII and has served multiple terms on the ALOT board of directors, and organized the portion of the program in Atchison County hosted by MU Extension. The program focused on some of the unique features of the northwest corner of the state with the common theme of wind. Jim Pierson, private lands conservationist with Missouri Department of Conservation, visited with the class about the soils of the Loess Hills. Jim Crawford spoke on wind farm leases, developing positive landowner/company relationships, and economic impact of wind energy in Atchison County. Robbie Piveral with Exelon Wind visited with the group about the Cow Branch wind farm. Robbie took the group to one of the wind turbine sites, on property owned by one of the county commissioners, so the class could see a turbine



Jim Crawford, MU Extension, visits with the Agricultural Leadership of Tomorrow (ALOT) program about wind energy leases during their visit to Atchison County, March 2018.

up-close. This is always one of the highlights for the class. Comments made on the evaluation for the session were extremely positive. Class members took away new or greater understanding of the many facets of the topic of wind energy.



participant's lifetime, saving

taxpayers money in reduced

insurance premiums.

public healthcare benefits and

# Family Nutrition Education

Number of Atchison County Leaners	What Did They Learn	What Action Did Participants Take?	How Does This Make Atchison County and Missouri Better?
University of Missouri Extension's Family Nutrition Program (FNP) reached 522 participants directly and 237 indirectly with nutrition education in Atchison County during 2018 a significant percentage of which 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.	Youth from Pre- school to 8th grade learned through kid -friendly, hands-on lessons and activities. Activities include 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.	Nutrition Program Associates (NPA's) go into schools and other grant eligible locations and interact with community members to help them make healthier choices and build healthy habits. They see the difference the program makes in people's lives.	The Family Nutrition Program (FNP) brought \$9,449,699.00 federal funds to the state of Missouri. These funds were used to provide nutrition education to 735,541 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients and eligible citizens of Missouri. There were 2,932,390 educational contacts. This year we had 2,242,249 indirect educational contacts. Indirect contacts are reached through newsletters, health fairs, food pantries and the Show Me Nutrition help line. 759 of these participants reside in Atchison County. Participants in FNP become more aware of nutrition, make healthier meal and snack choices, eat breakfast more often, are more willing to try new foods, increase their physical activity and in general
Success Stories shared by Gina Ripley, Nutrition Program Associate: "Several second grade students at Fairfax and Rock Port Elementary schools were certain they would not like the taste of refried beans in the Tortilla Roll-Ups recipe from the Food Group Express curricula for second grade. I was excited to see them showing a "thumbs-up" after tasting the recipe! Students will be able to make this healthy, low-cost recipe at home for meals or snacks.		make healthier food choices. Those who practice healthy eating and activity behaviors are more likely to enjoy a high quality of life as an adult and into old age. A healthy labor force is critical to attracting and keeping jobs in Missouri. In addition, this important programming effort serves to reduce healthcare costs over the	

A preschool student at Rock Port Elementary told her grandmother that Chef Gina taught her about germs. She reported that we cannot see germs, but they are everywhere so we need to scrub our hands with soap and water."

University of Missouri in Atchison County 201 East Hwy 136 Rock Port MO 64482 Phone: 660-744-6231 Email: atchisonco@missouri.edu http://extension.missouri.edu/atchison/ Facebook - University of Missouri Extension Atchison County

### Office faculty and staff:

Jim Crawford, field specialist in agricultural engineering and county program director Amie Schleicher, field specialist in livestock Samantha O'Riley, 4-H youth program associate Amy Meinecke, secretary/office manager

## Specialists and staff assigned to serve Atchison County:

Joe Lear, regional director Wayne Flanary, agronomy Randa Doty, agriculture business Penny Crawford, regional coordinator, FNEP Connie Griffith, FNEP program manager Tom Fowler, horticulture Annette Deering, 4-H youth Regina Ripley, nutrition program associate Meghaan Binkley-Hopper, business development Katie Buchs Pemberton, human development

INCOME	2018 BUDGET
County commissioners	\$45,500
Rent	\$1,070
Resale items/soil tests	\$350
Fundraising	\$1,700
Miscellaneous	\$30
TOTAL	\$48,650

#### Atchison County MU Extension Council Members

#### **Officers:**

Dallas Hurst, chairman Treyvor Umbarger, vice chairman Jennifer Geib, secretary Jon Lucas, treasurer

#### **District 1 - Tarkio School District**

Afton Hannah Joy Clapp Dallas Hurst Donna Million Tony Stepp

#### **District 2 - Rock Port School District** Jeremy Palmer Jon Lucas

Jennifer Geib Devon Sons Alan Lager

**District 3 - Fairfax School District** Jim Ball Leslie Sutter David Fast Treyvor Umbarger

#### **Appointed Members**

County Court James Quimby 4-H Advisory Farm Bureau Afton Hannah

EXPENSES	2018 BUDGET
Secretary/bookkeeper	\$19,333
3-wk temp. sec. and janitor	\$2,636
Benefits	\$1,715
Travel	\$3,645
Supplies/materials	\$8,122
Equip. new/maintenance	\$400
Ins., bond, adv.	\$1,255
Utilities/rent	\$7,162
<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> time youth program associate support	\$4,382
TOTAL	\$48,650

Federal and state funds provide salaries and benefits for professional staff assigned to the county, expenses for professional development, official mail, and cost sharing on computer technology. The University also provides educational materials and faculty support for extension programs. For the past year, 2018, University of Missouri Extension investment for direct support of three professional staff and one-half time youth program associate amounted to over \$279,900 in Atchison County.