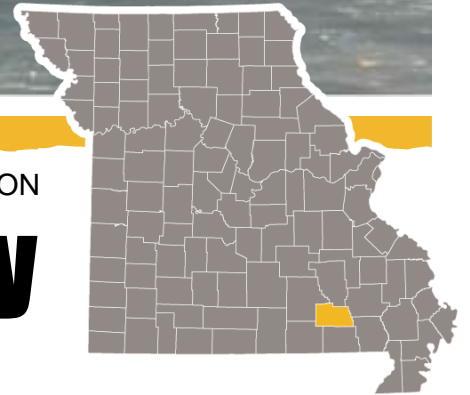




Big Spring, Van Buren



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Carter County

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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,



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

Who we are

Faculty and staff



Jennifer R. Williams
County Engagement Specialist
in Community/Economic
Development



Diane Oesch
Youth Program Associate



Sue Miller
Office Support



Donna Reynolds
Office Support

Council members

Alan Snider, Chairman
Sherilyn Clark, Vice-chairman
Jeannette Heavin, Secretary
Erica DeWolf, Treasurer
Sara Cooper
Diana Higgins
Preston Mabry
Erik McSpadden
Crystal Robinson
Emily Sellinger
Rebecca Tindall



County commissioners

Ron Keeney, Carter County Commissioner
Andy Steiger, Eastern District Commissioner
Lynn Murdick, Western District Commissioner

Budget and more

Appropriations budget

Income

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| County Appropriations | 16,400 |
| Rent | 2,400 |
| Temporary MU Contribution | 18,500 |
| Total Income | 37,300 |

Expenses

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Salaries/Benefits | 18,000 |
| Rent | 4,800 |
| Travel | 650 |
| Telephone | 1,600 |
| Office Supplies/Service | 2,780 |
| Utilities | 1,900 |
| Insurance | 500 |
| Capital Repairs | 250 |
| 4-H Expenses | 3,000 |
| Council Expenses | 300 |
| Total Expenses | 33,780 |

Key outcomes and numbers

- ✓ Small Business Development Center held multiple classes to help Missourians learn about starting a business and how to write a business plan
- ✓ Online Board Training and Neighborhood Leadership Academy were offered virtually and statewide
- ✓ Stay Strong, Stay Healthy and Tai Chi programs went virtual throughout the COVID pandemic
- ✓ 4-H Clubs in Van Buren and Ellsinore remained active in spite of COVID
- ✓ 4-H Shooting Sports – Archery & 4-H Sportfishing groups remained active in spite of COVID
- ✓ Robotics Club launched in Ellsinore as a result of grant funding
- ✓ **2004 direct contacts** made by MU Extension in Carter County through education opportunities
- ✓ **429 indirect contacts** made by MU Extension in Carter County through information and community services

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



Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to Carter 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. Donate Here:

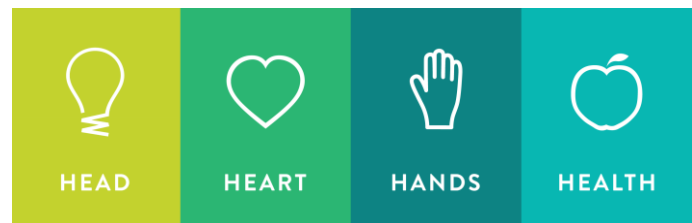
<https://extension.missouri.edu/counties/carter/donate>



Educational Access & Excellence

Carter County 4-H

Van Buren 4-H Club and Ellsinore 4-H Club remained active in spite of the COVID pandemic. Meeting attendance was limited due to COVID restrictions, but both clubs were able to meet periodically throughout the year.

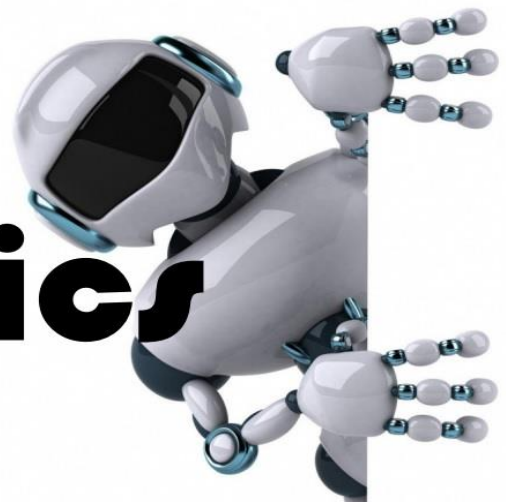


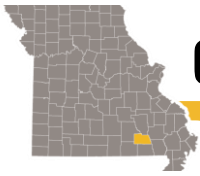
4-H Grant Projects

Youth Program Associate Diane Oesch was successful in obtaining grant funding to launch a robotics club in Ellsinore. The grant funding provided the necessary robots and activity kits, and the robotics students will have the opportunity to compete with other robotics clubs in a virtual format.

Diane was also able to obtain grant funding for Healthy Habits, a youth leadership program in which students teach other students the value of selecting and preparing healthy recipes. This program will be done with students in the Van Buren School District.

Robotics





County highlights

Carter Co. Extension Partners with JAG

Carter County Extension has partnered with local Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) programs in Van Buren, Ellsinore, and Poplar Bluff. As part of the partnership, Carter County Extension launched an ongoing clothing drive to collect suitable attire for students to use for job interviews and other employment opportunities. County Engagement Specialist Jennifer R. Williams has also worked with the students to participate in mock job interviews to better prepare them for seeking employment.



The Carter County Extension Council held a gun raffle to fund scholarships to assist two Carter County students in furthering their education.



Maggie and Molly Lefler prepare their lunch recipe as part of the #KidsCookLocal grant project.

#KidsCookLocal Grant Project

Thanks to a grant from Community Foundation of the Ozarks, the University of Missouri Extension of Carter County and Carter County 4-H launched #KidsCookLocal. This project allowed children in Carter County to learn the valuable life skill of cooking healthy foods.

Kits were placed at the Main Street Market, our local partner for this event, and at Van Buren R-1 and Ellsinore Middle School.

Kits included the recipe card for the featured food, and the main ingredients necessary to prepare the featured food. Children learned to cook a breakfast food, a lunch food, a dinner food, and a dessert item.



Economic Opportunity

Online Board Training

BOARD TRAINING ONLINE
Training for nonprofit board members

\$50

July 21 - Sept. 10
12:00 - 1:00 pm

Serving on a Board?
Learn what it takes to be an effective board member.

Register at:
<https://extension2.missouri.edu/build-your-board-training-online-2020>

Extension
University of Missouri

For the first time, MU's Online Board Training program was offered at a statewide level.

Neighborhood Leadership Academy

VIRTUAL COURSE

Neighborhood Leadership Academy:
COMMUNITY BUILDING - PROJECT PLANNING - LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Early Bird Registration Deadline: August 7, 2020

NLA **UMSL** **Extension**
University of Missouri

For the first time, MU's Neighborhood Leadership Academy program was offered at a statewide level.

Richard Proffer, Regional Field Specialist in Community Development

The Ozark Foothills Project was completed in 2020. Richard and his team helped to generate community awareness in broadband and tourism. While MU's official engagement is finished, Richard and his team continue to support the efforts as needed.

Richard is also working with County Engagement Specialist, Jennifer R. Williams, JD to obtain certification for Carter County as a Workforce Ready county.



County highlights

John Fuller

Human Development and Family Science
Specialist
573-686-8064
fullerjc@missouri.edu



2020

| County | Programs with at least 1 participant | Total number of adult direct contacts |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Butler | 13 | 100 |
| Carter | 9 | 25 |
| Iron | 5 | 9 |
| Ripley | 4 | 4 |
| Madison | 3 | 35 |
| Wayne | 3 | 15 |
| Reynolds | 1 | 1 |
| Oregon | 1 | 1 |
| Shannon | 1 | 1 |

- ✓ Able to have a person from every county participate in programming this past year
- ✓ Total direct and indirect contacts was 10,191 combined with other counties that participated in programming this past year
- ✓ Direct adult contacts across the state was a total of 3,240

- Alzheimer's Association series, on the 2nd Thursday every month from 12pm-1pm with a new topic
- Successful Aging series is a series of topics for those moving into our later years.
- Implementing more programs to strengthen our local families

Stress Tip

Recalling happy memories, and feeling a true appreciation for something, can help us manage our stress in the moment.

Professional Association

Submitted a training video to the National Extension Association of Family Consumer Sciences on award changes

Elected President Elect for the Missouri Extension Association for Family Consumer Sciences.

Chair for the National Extension Association for Family Consumer Sciences Awards and Recognition Training Sub-committee

- Help increase the numbers listed above for each community
- Help identify needs according to classes I am certified to teach
- Help identify other needs in Human Development and Families that we can bring to the community



Health & Well-being

Kelley Brent, Nutrition Specialist

2020 was a challenging year for everyone; however, I am proud to have served along with my fellow extension colleagues and to have played an active role with the impact we have been able to make in helping others throughout this unprecedented time. In my faculty role, throughout our quarantine period, I worked with several colleagues on projects producing education materials and creating curriculum for programs. I have continued to serve MU Extension, my counties and surrounding areas by not only providing educational opportunities but by actively participating in councils, planning meetings, boards, committees and events. I continue to participate in initiatives with the Butler County Resource Council, Butler County Wellness Council, Wayne County Wellness Coalition and many more. I am a local representative for the MU Echo program which serves as a resource, making various health care research and information accessible statewide, especially in the rural areas. I serve on the board of directors for the Missouri Parks Association as a representative of MU and especially my home counties, emphasizing the essential function of our natural resources, the necessity of preserving our outdoor parks and wilderness areas and the importance for outdoor activity. I am proud to serve the southeast region and MU Extension and look forward to my continued service helping to improve the health, well-being and quality of life for this area.



Nutrition and Health Activities, 2020

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy, Wayne County

Let's Take a Walk, Wayne County

3 Virtual Tai Chi programs offered throughout the year, Butler, Carter, Wayne (regional)

Matter of Balance, New Madrid County & Reynolds County

Canning Class, Butler County

Nutrition and Health Virtual Lunch and Learn Series, Butler, Carter, Wayne (regional)

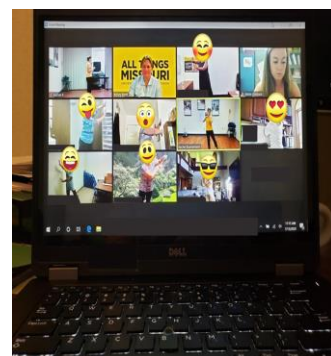
Wayne County Weekly Adventure Series, Butler, Carter, Wayne (regional)

Camping, Cooking and Outdoor Recreation Virtual Lunch and Learn Series, Butler, Carter, Wayne (regional)

Virtual Stay Strong, Stay Healthy, Butler, Carter, Wayne (regional)

Economic Impact Study on Wal-Mart closing, Wayne County (and surrounding area)

Implementation of Wi-fi access and assistance through the Wayne county office, Wayne county (and surrounding area)



County highlights



Jamie Gundel,
Agronomy Specialist
Oregon County

Soil Testing

Soil testing is a great way for farmers and gardeners to determine the nutrient status of their soil, and what soil amendments need to be made in order to increase crop production. The information provided from soil tests enables producers to make better management decisions and make their operations more profitable. Interpretations and recommendations were made for 451 soil tests in 2020.

Oregon County – 242

Carter County – 43

Ripley County – 116

Dunklin – 1

Butler – 21

Wayne – 19

Stoddard – 9

Private Pesticide Applicator Training

Private Pesticide Applicator Trainings educate farmers on the safe and proper handling and application of agricultural pesticides. Missouri law requires anyone who purchases and applies restricted use pesticides to attend a training session or view a training video. 55 local residents received initial training or recertified their Private Pesticide Applicator license in 2020.

Carter County – 5

Oregon County – 28

Reynolds County – 1

Ripley County – 11

Shannon County – 10

Grazing Schools

Missouri Grazing Schools have been conducted throughout the state since 1991 in an effort to teach farmers the art and science of grazing livestock. Grazing Schools are taught in cooperation between MU Extension, USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service, and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The intent of the schools is to teach Missouri livestock producers management practices that will increase the profitability of their farms while improving the environmental quality of the land they manage. Topics covered in the schools include soil fertility, animal nutrition, grazing and watering system design, and various other concepts that focus on grazing management. 10 students attended the Alton Grazing Schools in 2020.

Farm Visits/Consultations

One on one consultations with agricultural producers are a great way to create a lasting impact while adding a personal touch to MU Extension programming. It allows farmers to discuss their specific situation and receive recommendations based on their individual needs. These educational sessions may be conducted by phone, walk-ins, or on site farm visits. During 2020, 370 farmers were reached through farm visits, walk-ins, and phone call consultations.