



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Chariton County

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



**Office of Extension
and Engagement**
University of Missouri

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

108 Whitten Hall
Columbia, MO 65211

PHONE 573-882-2394

EMAIL stewartmars@missouri.edu

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

Tracie Moore– County Engagement Specialist in Agriculture and Environment
(660)288-3239
mooretra@missouri.edu

Rebecca Bentley– Youth Program Associate
(660)288-3239
rjbentley@missouri.edu

Jan Brett– Chariton County Office Support
(660)288-3239

Mark Christian– Small Business and Technology Development Specialist
(573)884-7667
christianma@missouri.edu

Chelsea Corkins– 4-H Youth Development Specialist
(660)886-6908
corkinsc@missouri.edu

Penny Crawford-Regional Coordinator Food and Nutrition Education Program (FNP)
(816) 632-7009
crawfordp@missouri.edu

Dhruba Dhakal– Field Specialist in Agronomy
(573)581-3231
dhakald@missouri.edu

Chandra Carey- Nutrition Program Associate
(580)227-6116
careyce@missouri.edu

Connie Griffith- Nutrition Program Manager
(816)632-7009
griffithco@missouri.edu

Joe Lear– Regional Director
(573)882-4554
learj@missouri.edu

Kathi Mecham– Horticulture Specialist
(660)542-1792sou
mechamk@missouri.edu

Richard Proffer- Community Development Specialist
(573)243-3581
profferd@missouri.edu

Sue Robison– Nutrition and Health Education
(660)542-1792
robisona@missouri.edu

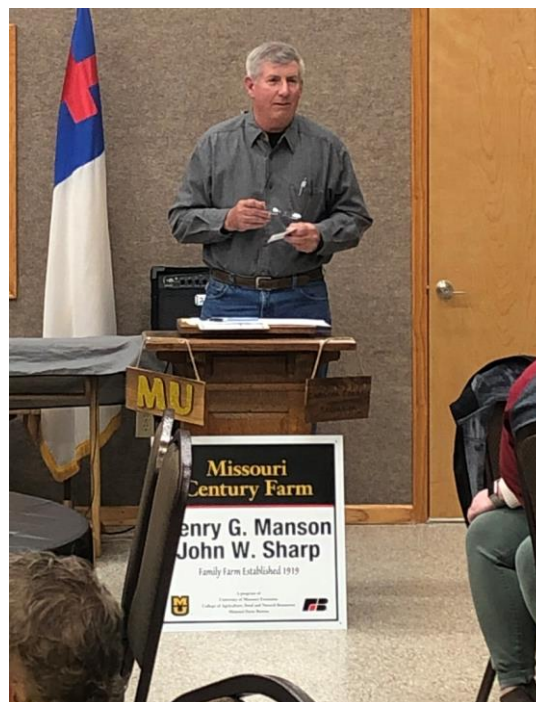
Jeremiah Terrell– Human Development Specialist
(660)269-9656
terrellj@missouri.edu

Council members

Lisa Stewart, Chairman
Doug Helmers, Vice-chairman
Deb Sellers, Secretary
Beverly Henke, Treasurer
Bobbie Biere
Heath Harms
Kristin Jenkins
Doug Kruessel
Tonna McSparren
Bryan Scheiderer
Deb Seyler
Chase Young

County Commission

Evan Emmerich, Presiding Commissioner
Jared Meyer, Associate Commissioner East District
Terry Milford, Associate Commissioner West District



Century Farms being awarded at the 2020 Annual Chariton County Extension Meeting.

Budget and more

Appropriations budget

Income

Chariton County Appropriations	\$40,000.00
Total Income	\$ 40,000.00

Expenses

Payroll & Payroll Expenses	\$29,047.70
Travel	\$1,513.00
Postage	\$503.25
Telephone	\$1,176.90
Reproduction/Cop Services	\$316.80
Supplies	\$2,269.79
Insurance	\$231.14
Extension Council Operations	\$386.80
Publications for Resale	\$151.92
4-H Enrollment Fees	\$375.00
Miscellaneous	\$728.65
Total Expenses	\$36,700.95

Key outcomes and numbers

- ✓ 3,266 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of district counties, including:
 - ✓ 307 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
 - ✓ 2,952 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
 - ✓ 7 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy
- ✓ The University of Missouri has launched [MU Community Connect](#), a platform designed to improve opportunities for connection between the university and various populations in the communities they serve.

Return on Investment

University System	\$107,587.00
Donations	\$55.20
Program Revenue	\$1395.50
Investment Income	\$1650.70

Box of camp materials packed and ready to go to 4-H members who participated in the Virtual 4-H Summer Camp



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



Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to Chariton 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

MU Extension Tax School



University of Missouri Extension ag economics department and regional ag business specialists worked together to coordinate one summer and two fall tax schools. Due to COVID, all schools were online via Zoom. The schools were designed for those who prepare taxes including enrolled agents, tax preparers, CPA's, individuals and attorneys.

The training included updates on the COVID-19 legislation, rulings and cases, individual taxpayer issues, agricultural and natural resources topics, IRS rules and regulations, business issues, retirement issues, financial distress, S corporations, QBI deductions, trusts and estates, and ethics. The schools were approved for 8 and 16 hours of continuing education credit by the IRS, Missouri Bar and for CFP continuing education. Total continuing education hours reported to IRS for the schools was 2,768 hours.

Local county residents benefit when local tax preparers have the opportunity to gain knowledge, which benefits their clients and communities. The tax schools are a program of the ag business and policy program of MU Extension, coordinated by Mary Sobba with help from a team of ag business specialists throughout the state.

The 2020 school attendance totaled two hundred seventy-one people. The participants were from all over Missouri. Six participants were from Chariton County.

Soil, Plant and Water Sample Test, On-site Farm Visit

Extension office receives soil, plant and water samples from local people and send to soil testing lab. Field specialist in agronomy receives the test report and provides recommendation and interpretation to the

clients. Specialists also visit crop, pasture, fruit and vegetable production farms to identify or diagnose the issues and provide research-based management options to the client. Timely diagnosis of issues in the farm helps farmers to save their crops, increase farmer's knowledge and awareness to adopt good agricultural practices (GAP). This helps to increase net farm income by increasing crop productivity and reducing production cost. The increased local economy in Chariton county contributes to the better Missouri state's economy.

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. Missouri had the highest number of registrants with 93 and three of those registrants were from Chariton County. Missouri hosted three sessions: Fostering Entrepreneurship in Your Community, Food Hub Growth Stories, and Leveraging Online Sales to Grow Your Business. Other sessions included: Collaborating for Meaningful Food Policy Change, Business Succession Strategies for Community Leaders, Empowering Young Entrepreneurs, and Focusing Communities through Data and Engagement.

Private Pesticide Applicator Training

The training educates crop producers for safe handling and application of restricted use pesticides. Participants learned about proper pest ID, economic thresholds and injury levels, emergency planning procedure and the environmental ramification of improper pesticide application. This help to protect and enhance natural resources and water quality in Chariton county and the state of Missouri.





Educational Access & Excellence

MU Extension Minute With Sue

When the pandemic closed much of the state, using Facebook live, MU Extension Minute with Sue had 12 sessions on nutrition, health and food safety. Each presentation had a web resource link with evidenced based information about each week's topic. A total of 1543 views, with the most popular being the recipe for Macaroni and Cheese with 553 views and how to apply hand sanitizer with 349 views.

Chariton County 4-H

Chariton County 4-H served over 140 youth through three organized clubs, school enrichment, and camps, and over 200 youth in community activities during our 2020 enrollment year. While COVID-19 changed the format of or cancelled some traditional 4-H activities, Chariton County faculty and staff worked throughout the year and continue to innovate collaboratively to produce quality, positive youth development opportunities! Highlights included 4-H Live, a social media project with 500,000 reaches, a Curbside Clover Kid Camp with all 23 Chariton Clovers partook in, and continued festival and community event activities to get 4-H out into the wider Chariton County community.

County 4-H clubs offer long-term educational experiences in which members learn life skills such as decision making, communication, and working with others. In 2020, Chariton 4-H youth learned by doing under the guidance of more than 60 adult volunteers, who taught projects both in-person and virtually ranging from robotics and arts to animal science and



A Chariton 4-H Clover Kid enjoying one of the Curbside Clover Camp activities.



4-H Youth show-off their catches at the 2020 "virtual" Sportsfishing state event.

healthy living. Clubs also involved youth in community service, virtual camp, as well as local, regional, and state educational events.

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 of 100 hours per year to the program. Valuing their time at \$27.20 per hour (Independent Sector, 2020), the contribution of Chariton County 4-H volunteers was worth more than \$160,000.

In 2019-2020, Chariton County 4-H members participated in:

- Missouri State Fair
- Chariton 4-H Lock-In and Recognition
- Virtual 4-H Summer Camp
- Clover Kid Curbside Camp
- Chariton County Youth Fair
- Move Across Missouri
- State Fashion Revue
- State Sportsfishing
- Northwest Missouri Regional Energizer
- Officer Training with Triad Counties

4-H also helps youth become college and career ready. 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 (Arnold, Bourdeau, & Nott, 2013). 4-H prepares youth for this changing world by developing leadership, building initiative, and creating connections towards a brighter future.



Health & Well-being

Family Nutrition Program

University of Missouri Extension's Family Nutrition Program (FNP) reached 217 participants directly and 966 indirectly with nutrition education in Chariton County during 2020 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.

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.

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.



Chef the puppet usually helps teach during in person classroom FNP programs but for 2020 he made multiple Facebook appearances during the stay at home request.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education

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.

1,183 direct and indirect contacts were made in Chariton 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.

Rural Communities Opioid Response Program

Chariton County is involved with the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Consortium. Members from several community organizations throughout Randolph, Monroe, Howard and Chariton counties are a part of a three-phase \$1 million grant program to fight opioid addiction by focusing on recovery, treatment and prevention. This year, partners were given the tools to inform the public of how Opioids affect the individual, society and law enforcement, the treatment using naloxone and resources to aid in the recovery process. Sue Robison, MU Extension Nutrition Specialist servers on the consortium for Chariton County.

4-H Live

4-H Live was an online learning, 9-week virtual 4-H experience developed when COVID-19 shutdown face-to-face group opportunities. This program featured MU Extension livestock, nutrition/health, horticulture, natural resources, and youth development specialists, as well as multiple 4-H volunteers. With more than 30 adult and youth presenters, 4-H Live showcased rapid innovation and commitment to resilient youth education with quick and effective teamwork. This effort resulted in 45 diverse, hands-on Facebook and YouTube videos premiering between March 17 and May 15 with over 500,000 reaches and 49,000 views throughout the US and Canada. Some topics during 4-H Live included Fun with Food, Healthy Breakfast, Gardening, Livestock Judging, Survival Skills plus many more.



County highlights

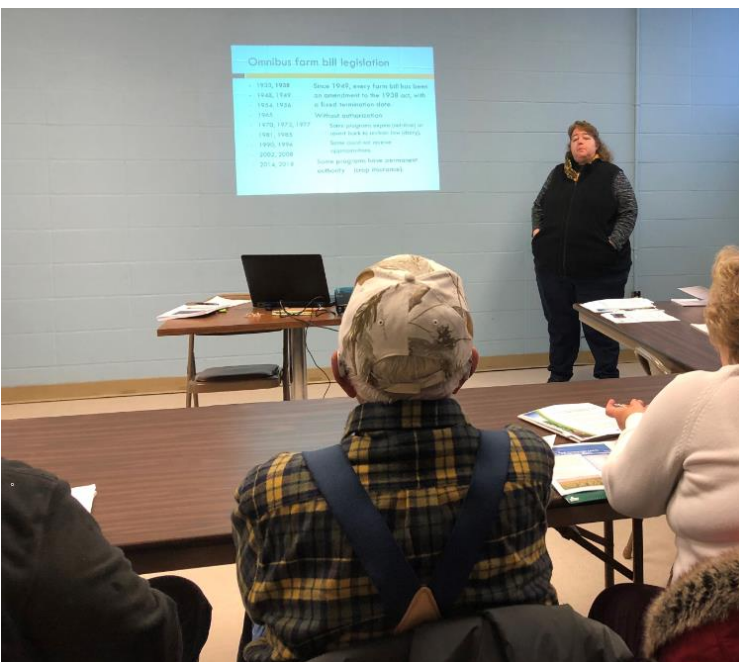
Farm, Family & Me

Farm, Family & Me is a summit for women to increase understanding of farm risk management. The 2020 summit moved to a virtual platform due to COVID-19. The Farm, Family & Me Summit focused on building resiliency. Topics included dealing with financial and farm stress, self-care, as well as mental well-being.

At the end of the summit 60% of the participants felt encouraged to find out more about the topics. Thirty-four percent felt empowered to develop a plan to address topics covered throughout the summit. Participants felt the program was very interesting, informative, inspirational, and relevant. A total of 182 women attend the virtual Farm, Family & Me Summit and two were from Chariton County.

2018 Farm Bill Education Program

The Farm Bill Program was conducted to help agriculture producer learn about the 2018 farm bill. Participants learned what programs would be available to register for and changes made to programs that were continuing. Participants were given access to decision tools to help them make an educated decision as to what would be best for their farm. Extension Ag Business faculty not only helped coordinate and conduct the Farm Bill program but also gave support to producers who requested assistance to use the different decision tools. Chariton County producers attended the face-to-face program held in Keytesville while others attended the program in different counties or sought one-on-one counselling with Tracie Moore, County Engagement Specialist in Ag and Environment.



Mary Sobba, Field Specialist in Agricultural Business presenting information during the 2018 Farm Bill Education Program.

Horticulture Town Hall

Kathi Mecham, Field Specialist in Horticulture was on several teams that created virtual state-wide programs to continue the MU mission. The *Horticulture Town Hall* was one program that offered citizens of Missouri a question and answer format to have horticulture topics addressed weekly. The Town Hall provided a weekly weather update from the state climatologist, presentations on timely topics like tomato diseases, trees concerns, insect concerns and benefits. Twenty-eight Town Hall events were presented from April 8 - December 9, 2020, with 2,363 total attendees for an average of 84 attendees per event. Thirty Youtube videos, or snippets, were produced from these Town Halls

(<https://www.youtube.com/MUIPM>). As of December 22, these videos have been viewed 4,733 times, for an average of 158 views per video. The program will continue into 2021.

***You do a great job and this is a real service to patrons of Extension in Missouri. Thank you.
~Town Hall participant***

Show-Me-Quality Assurance

The objective for Show-Me-Quality Assurance (SMQA) is "To increase the knowledge and awareness of Missouri youth about food quality issues related to animal production."

Perceived safety, wholesomeness, and nutritional value of food products influence consumer-buying decisions. If consumers are not confident a product is of the highest quality they have come to expect they will not purchase it.

- ❖ To date, I have conducted 37 trainings, with over 1,850 certifications
- ❖ 25 youth from Chariton County participated in the 2020 SMQA program
- ❖ Statewide, more than 36,500 youth have been certified
- ❖ Resulted in an average savings of \$3.00 to \$5.00 per head by reducing herd health expenses and providing a safe food product
- ❖ Participants have increased their knowledge about food quality and animal well-being by 2.5 points on a 1-5 scale
- ❖ Drug residues have dropped to nearly zero since the start of the program