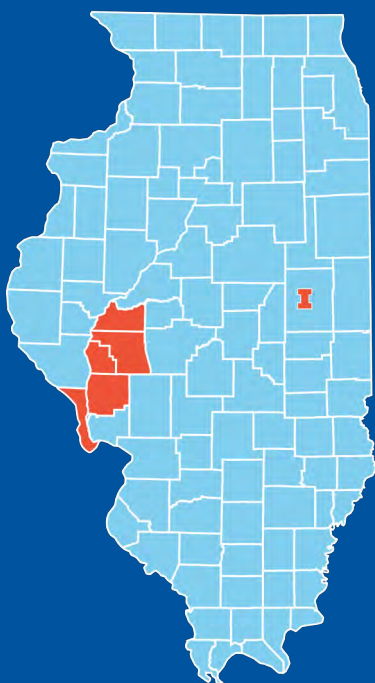




University of Illinois Extension provides practical education you can trust to help people, businesses, and communities solve problems, develop skills, and build a better future. Based in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Extension is the statewide outreach program of the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.



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A Message from the Chancellor

The University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign is an economic engine and a driver of innovation, deeply rooted in the Illinois prairie and engaged statewide, from Cook County to Cairo. Illinois Extension brings the University to your doorstep. Extension educators live and work alongside you in every county, allowing the university to support local leaders, businesses, farmers, and residents to address grand challenges and everyday problems with practical, research-based solutions. As a youth, my own 4-H experience inspired a rewarding career in agricultural research and higher education. Today, it's an honor to lead this great public university and deepen its commitment to serve the people of Illinois.

Robert J. Jones
Chancellor, University of Illinois



A Note from the County Director

I believe that we as Extension workers are obligated to **Inspire, Challenge, and Motivate** others! I believe it is my role as county director to challenge our staff to create and deliver programs for our communities that are significant, have impact on peoples lives, and that will inspire our participants to say...do it again!!

It is an honor for me to share how unique our staff are and provide you with a sampling of their talents and moments of significance. I am a firm believer that the programming success stories highlighted in this report are a direct reflection of our staffs' shared passion and purpose.

I am proud to serve as the county director in Calhoun, Cass, Greene, Morgan, and Scott Counties, and I ask that you take a moment to enjoy the highlights of this report.

Aaron Dufelmeier
County Extension Director



Timber and Taxes Seminar

A timber harvesting and taxes seminar was held at the Morgan County Extension office on February 3.

Extension State Forester Jay Hayek presented information for forest land owners on selling and marketing their timber, establishing a basis for tax purposes, and provided sustainable techniques for optimizing timber value.

Seventy people attended the workshop.

Participants said they would use the information to:

- › Establish a timber basis
- › Use a professional forester to assist in a timber sale
- › Get a survey of property lines prior to a sale
- › Market a timber sale



Rearing Honey Bee Queens

Many participants in the Beginning Beekeeping Class as well as the local Apple Creek Beekeepers Club have been interested in learning more about rearing honey bee queens. In response to this interest, unit staff partnered with the Illinois Queen Initiative to offer a one-day queen rearing class.

Locally produced queens tend to have a greater survival potential when compared to queens that come from southern states (where a majority of queen bees are produced) because they are better adapted to the climate conditions as well as pests and diseases found in Illinois.

Experienced beekeepers, utilizing the Illinois Queen Initiative Practices, provided hands-on instruction for rearing honey bee queens. Participants learned how to select queen genetics and identify desired traits for breeding, as well as several different methods of queen rearing (grafting, Cloake board, cell punch, Jenter/Nicot system, and the Miller method).





Get Into Gardening

All About Berries

This seminar discussed growing small fruit such as strawberries, blueberries, raspberries and blackberries. Participants learned about general care, selection, pruning, and pest management of these plants.

Growing Tomatoes

This seminar discussed the ins and outs of growing tomatoes in the garden. Participants learned about general care, the different types of tomatoes, ways to support plants, as well as common pests and diseases affecting tomatoes.

Growing Herbs

Participants learned about growing common culinary herbs like basil, mint and oregano. This seminar covered general care, as well as harvesting and storage of herbs.

Growing Corn in the Garden

Participants learned about growing sweet, pop, and ornamental corn in a garden setting. Topics included general care, the different types of corn, isolation requirements and pest and disease management.

Gardening for Butterflies

This seminar discussed the different types of plants that are attractive to butterflies as well as larval host plants. Additionally participants learned about other things they can do in their landscapes to make them more attractive to butterflies.

Total attendance was 95 participants for these five seminars. Many commented that they would be incorporating knowledge they gained from the presentations into their gardens and landscapes.

Cover Crops for Gardens

While the use of cover crops in agricultural crops has been encouraged in recent years, there is little information on the use of cover crops in garden settings. Some research from Extension specialists in Maryland have seen promising results in terms of organic no-till weed control, but it has not been attempted in Illinois.

A demonstration/research plot of tillage radish and cereal rye has been established at the McCully Heritage Farm in Calhoun County. Tillage radish was seeded in early September of 2017 in two foot wide and 60 foot long plots. In mid-October, cereal rye was seeded by itself and with some of the tillage radish plots. Control plots with no cover crops are also in place.

The tillage radish survived a couple of hard frosts before dying in November. The rye is beginning to grow, and will be crimped in May and used as a mulch layer. Potatoes will be planted in the plots, and weed barriers will be employed on the mulched plots for several weeks in late May and early June to see if the barrier and heat will kill weeds between the rows.





McCully Heritage Project

University of Illinois Extension in Calhoun, Cass, Greene, Morgan, and Scott Counties partner with the McCully Heritage Project in Kampsville, to facilitate natural resources programming in Calhoun County and the surrounding area. The McCully Heritage Project provides an on-the-ground facility for programming and hands-on learning opportunities, and the partnership allows U of I to have an ANR program coordinator on staff full-time in Calhoun County. Programming emphasis at McCully include:



Forestry & Timber Management:
<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/forestry/>



Agroforestry:
<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/forestry/agroforestry.html>



Wildlife Management:
<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/wildlife/>



Natural Resource Management:
<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/state/natres.html>



Michelle Berg Vogel leads the tour of McCully with Dean Kimberly Kidwell and Dr. Shelley Nichols-Richardson Director of Extension.



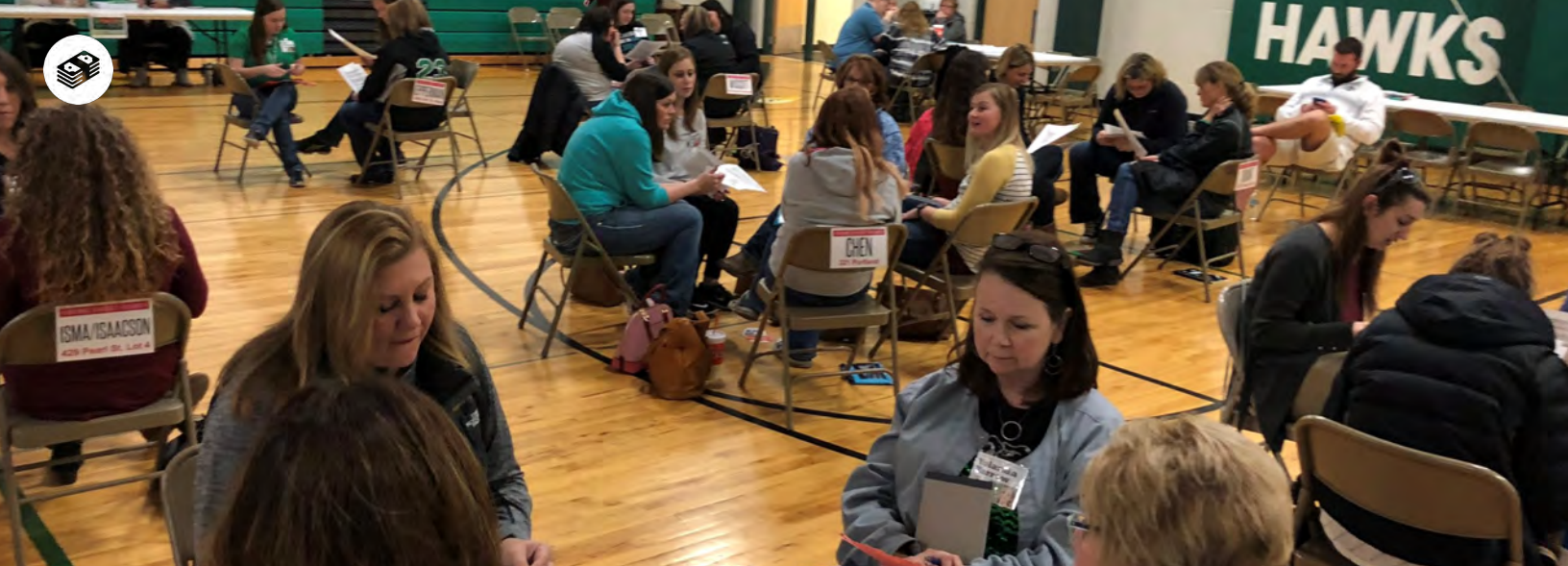
Cass County Overall Economic Development Commission

The Cass County OEDC is a partner with University of Illinois Extension serving the economic development needs in Cass County. The mission of OEDC is to retain, promote, and attract commercial and industrial development within Cass County. The goals of our partnership include working together to enhance the quality of life for the communities of Cass County. Programming examples include:

- › Local Government Education
- › Workforce Preparation
- › Customer Service
- › Farmers Markets
- › Youth Entrepreneurship
- › Welcome to the Real World
- › The Best of Cass County
- › Poverty Simulations



OEDC Website
<https://cassedc.wixsite.com/casscounty>



Promoting Poverty Awareness, Increasing Understanding and Inspiring Local Change

Poverty is a reality for many individuals and families. But unless you've experienced poverty, it's difficult to truly understand. The Poverty Simulation bridges that gap from misconception to understanding through an interactive immersion experience. It sensitizes community participants to the realities of poverty.

In 2018 our staff conducted 6 poverty simulations throughout every county in our unit with a total of 330 participants. We have received positive feedback from evaluations and have been inspired by various comments made on-site during the training.

As a result of the program, several participants started a backpack food program for students on the weekends.

I lived in poverty as a child and this training helped me understand how my parents must have felt while we were living in poverty.

This class helped me feel the stress of my customers living in poverty.





Partnerships That Matter

This year University of Illinois Extension partnered with Jacksonville Center for Independent Living (JACIL) to teach an adult cooking school along with nutrition education. We were able to reach an audience with communication, visual, and learning barriers with this partnership. JACIL applied and was awarded a grant from Walmart to provide a sign language interpreter for the class. During the first nutrition class, a person with blindness was able to talk with the group to encourage the participants with blindness to cook food at home.

JACIL was able to provide braille handouts, cookbooks, measuring cups and measuring spoons to the participants who needed that adaptive equipment. Most of the participants had limited vision, and large print reading materials were provided. Materials were also purchased to include high sided paper plates to make it easier for people with Cerebral Palsy or other disabilities to eat. The outcome of the class was amazing and a cooking class with nutrition lessons is being scheduled for 2019. University of Illinois Extension also provided gardening classes, single nutrition classes, and helped people make good nutritious choices during a trip to Walmart provided by JACIL.



Jacksonville Area Center for Independent Living
<https://jacil.org/>

I prepared a Magic Fruit Salad that I learned about in class for a potluck and I was so proud that all of it was gone at the end.

I have been making Maple Glazed Bacon Brussels Sprouts in the oven and eating other foods that I would normally not eat because of what I prepared in class.





JACIL program partnership (Jacksonville Area Center for Independent Living). JACIL serves individuals with mental, sensory, physical, cognitive, and developmental disabilities.



Meeting our Youth



Jacksonville Area Chamber of Commerce Town Hall Meeting



Poverty Simulation Program in Beardstown



ACES Alumni Dinner



McCully Heritage Project





MyPi—My Preparedness Initiative

How well a community responds to a disaster depends on how many people are trained in emergency response. These individuals must work together as a team to be effective, and must be able to follow instructions from a central leader.

A new program being offered by University of Illinois Extension provides Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) for teens. The program, called My Preparedness Initiative (MyPi), is designed to give teens from 13 to 19 years of age the basics needed to volunteer for emergency response within their community.

Teens accepted into the program learn about disaster preparedness, fire safety, disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, and several other topics. The curriculum is from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's basic training materials.

Many activities involving local first responders are included. As part of program completion, participants are encouraged to assist their family and 6 other households to develop a disaster kit and disaster plan.

Eighteen teenagers from Calhoun, Cass, Greene, Morgan, and Scott Counties completed the classroom portion of the program in April and May 2018. Several have completed the entire program by getting their household and six other households to develop disaster plans and kits. In addition, many of our students said they will use the skills and knowledge they have gained to help within their communities.



<https://mypiillinois.org/>

Annie's Project Education for Farm Women

Our mission is to empower farm and ranch women to be better business partners through networks and by managing and organizing critical information.

Farming is a complex business and more farm women are becoming active business partners in their operations. The target audience is farm women with a passion for business and involvement. Participants will gain a better understanding of human resource issues, business plans, financial documentation, property titles, cash and crop share leases, marketing plans, retirement and estate planning, and types of insurance. In the spring of 2018, 20 farm and agri-business women participated in this program offered at our Jacksonville office. This class is designed for participants to learn from each others' experiences too and we therefore have a maximum class size of 20. We will offer another Annie's class again in 2019 as we had 17 women on our waiting list for the spring 2018 class.



<https://www.anniesproject.org/about-us/>



An Illinois Story

Aaron Dufelmeier is living the dream, just down the road from where his Extension journey began.

Dufelmeier manages the Extension program in Calhoun, Cass, Greene, Morgan, and Scott counties. In April, he hosted Dr. Kim Kidwell, dean of the University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, and Dr. Shelly Nickols-Richardson, interim director of U of I Extension.

Dufelmeier oversees educational programs for five counties he describes as "family oriented, tradition-based, and legacy-ag driven."

Dufelmeier, who grew up on a grain and livestock farm just miles down the road from the Morgan County Extension office, was a 4-H member. "So many opportunities were provided to me, and now I get to fulfill some of those same opportunities and dreams for others," Dufelmeier said.

Dufelmeier believes that being a member of the livestock judging team in 4-H, FFA, Jr. College, and at the

University of Illinois helped prepare and shape him into the person he is today.

"We all know and understand the value and importance of decision making and communication," he says. "This is exactly what being part of livestock judging teaches young people." He says he believes that to be an effective leader it is essential that we learn to be transparent and articulate, and that we must provide factual justification for the decisions we make. "Young people that are part of a livestock judging team evaluate animals and their differences both phenotypically and genetically," he adds. "With the combination of visual assessment in concert with the genetic or performance data of the animals, these students then provide an oral set of reasons or justification for why they placed a class the way they did, and that's a tremendous life skill."

Dufelmeier coaches the 4-H members throughout Calhoun, Cass, Greene, Morgan, and Scott Counties who wish to enhance their knowledge of the livestock industry and their ability to evaluate the differences in the livestock. He coaches these teams to be confident and competitive all while mentoring these youth to be outstanding young leaders.

Whether it is livestock judging or building a robot, Dufelmeier believes it is the 4-H program that allows young people to pursue their passion and foster their purpose as they mature into adulthood. "Our 4-H members know and understand that each day, they have the opportunity to inspire others," Dufelmeier says. "Our members know there is no greater feeling of satisfaction and no greater reward in life than knowing when you have helped someone in need."

Dufelmeier models the behavior he expects to see from his members. "For nearly 20 years, I have personally witnessed the impact we have on young people's lives and future," he says. "Our 4-H members exemplify a positive 'can do' attitude, with a spirit of enthusiasm and creativity in their work. We believe we can enhance skills like communication, leadership, and responsibility, fueling our youth's passion, compassion, patience, generosity, and dedication."

Judy Mae Bingman
Illinois 4-H Media & Communications Specialist





Health Rocks

This year the Health Rocks program was implemented in three school systems. This is the second year the program has reached 7th grade students from Winchester Elementary School and the first year for Meredosia and Bluffs school systems. Just in this first semester and the past spring semester, almost 80 7th grade students have gained the knowledge to make better decisions related to drugs and alcohol and how it relates to their future.



4-H Federation

Our 4-H Federation groups work hard each year to find ways to give back to their communities and market the 4-H program. This past year, the Cass, Morgan, and Scott Federation groups provided support to those in need. Our Federation groups provided support to their communities in many different ways such as collecting stuffed animals and candy to distribute to the local nursing homes. For the second year in a row, they were involved in the Feeding and Growing Communities – Meal Packaging event (meals were distributed to local food pantries). At the April 4th meal packaging event, Illinois 4-H packaged the 1 millionth meal for those in need.

Our members also market the 4-H program locally by walking in parades, setting up booths and becoming guest speakers at local community events.

We continue to educate our youth on the importance of giving back to their communities and provide the opportunity for them to become a voice for the 4-H program.





SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EDUCATION (SNAP-EDUCATION)

SNAP-Education staff works with Illinois families in need to make the healthier choice an easier choice where they eat, shop, live, play, and learn. Through classes and workshops, and by collaborating with community partners to adopt research-based solutions to encourage healthier nutrition and activity choices, SNAP-Education positively impacts the families and communities we serve.

Serving Local Families



1,356

Total SNAP-Education Participants



36.5%

Adults



63.5%

Youth



3.8% Identified as Hispanic

95.7% Identified as Non-Hispanic

0.4% Unknown

RACE OF PARTICIPANTS

- 81.2% White (1,101)
- 17.3% Black (234)
- 2% American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, or Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (27)

Our Community Partners



10

K-12 Schools



1

Stores and Markets



4

Early Childhood Centers



10

Community Centers



3

Food Pantries and Food Banks

Illinois Junior Chefs

One of the best things that we do is teach kids how to cook. This is a skill that will last a lifetime and we provided this education to the Presbyterian Daycare in Jacksonville during the summer of 2018. When it is common for both parents to work, it is likely that when the children are teenagers that they will need to know how to prepare healthy food. These children also learned about the different food groups, why they are important, and how to serve a meal with each of the 5 food groups included.





Aaron Dufelmeier
County Extension Director



Duane Friend
*Energy and Environmental
Stewardship Educator*



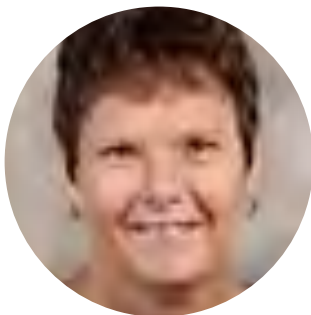
Ken Johnson
Horticulture Educator



April Littig
*4-H Youth Development
Educator*



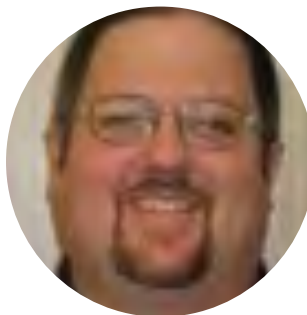
Jennifer Russell
*Community & Economic
Development Educator*



Tanya Hetelle
4-H Program Coordinator



Michelle Berg Vogel
ANR Program Coordinator



Dustin Fritsche
CED Program Coordinator



Melinda Vortman
SNAP Program Coordinator



Becky Schafer
*Community Worker - Snap Ed
Morgan County*



Terri Wilson
Office Support Specialist



Brenda Robinson
Office Support Associate



Georgi Flowers
Office Support Associate



Extension in Action



Our Mission

Extension provides practical education you can trust to help people, businesses, and communities solve problems, develop skills and build a better future.

What We Do

We create and deliver meaningful, value added, and research based educational programming to youth and adults.

Why It Matters

We improve the lives of our community's residents by serving as the link between the people and the research at the University of Illinois.



<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/ccgms>

4-H Illini Fighting Hunger Event April 4th, 2018

Unit Financial Report		2018
REVENUES		\$784,409.00
Local		54%
State		33%
Federal		10%
University		3%
EXPENSES		\$784,409.00
Personnel		71%
Non-Personnel		29%



EXTENSION ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Terry Strauch, Calhoun County
Kirby Ballard, Greene County
J.R. Blair, Cass County
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Lnace Steckel, Scott County
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Tammy White, Morgan County
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Sally Mansfield, Greene County

Will Andras, Scott County
Tim Preston, Morgan County
Stephanie Knittel, Greene County
Jack Liddick, Cass County
Todd Behrends, Cass County
Jamie Behrends, Cass County

OFFICE LOCATIONS

Morgan County

104 N. Westgate
Jacksonville, IL 62650
Phone: 217-243-7424
Fax: 217-243-1544
Email: uie-ccgms@illinois.edu
Mon - Fri, 8am - noon, 1 - 4:30pm

Calhoun County

818 S. Park, P.O. Box 366
Hardin, IL 62047
Phone: 618-576-2293
Fax: 618-576-8013
Tues/Thurs, 8am - noon, 1 - 4:30pm

Cass County

651 S. Job
Virginia, IL 62691
Phone: 217-452-3211
Fax: 217-452-7260
Mon/Wed/Fri, 8am - noon, 1 - 4:30pm

Greene County

RR 3, Box 129C
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Scott County

401 N. Walnut
Winchester, IL 62694
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Tues/Thurs, 8am - noon, 1 - 4:30pm

University of Illinois ~ U.S. Department of Agriculture ~ Local Extension Councils Cooperating

University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any program, please contact the county Extension office. The Illinois Nutrition Education Program is funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture by the Director, Cooperative Extension Service, and University of Illinois.