

Impacting YOU

"Impacting You"
is a monthly report
used to communicate

University of Illinois Extension - Unit 26
programming impacts to stakeholders.

Dear Valued Stakeholder:

As the University of Illinois continues to address the impacts of COVID-19, the safety and well-being of our staff and communities remain our top priorities. Following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, campus leadership has implemented social-distancing protocols that include most faculty and staff working remotely. As a result of this directive, all face-to-face events organized by Illinois Extension previously scheduled through July 31, 2020 have been cancelled, suspended, or transitioned to online delivery.

Our programs and stories reflect our transition to online delivery methods. Webinars, virtual 4-H clubs, youth challenges and other alternate methods of engagement allow us to continue to serve the community during this time. It is my pleasure to present this brief impact report of the programs and events offered to the residents of Franklin, Jackson, Perry, Randolph and Williamson Counties during this past month.

- Lynn Heins, Unit 26 County Extension Director

424

Total Direct
Contacts
(Excluding SNAP-ED)

23

Total Number
of Programs &
Events

4-H senior makes COVID-themed prom dress out of duct tape

A Randolph County 4-H member is making local and national news with her COVID-themed prom dress constructed entirely out of duct tape for her entry in the Stuck at Prom scholarship contest.

Using 41 rolls of duct tape, Peyton Manker spent more than 400 hours tracing original artwork of life during the pandemic, cutting out tiny pieces of tape and transferring them to the dress. The detailed designs showcase front-line workers, mental health issues as a result of social isolation, and the world figuratively running from the virus.

The 10-year 4-H member has created a variety of visual arts projects for the annual county 4-H show, including string art, paintings, photography and origami. To date, the original post has been shared more than 2,600 times. The dress has been featured in the news, on blogs, and social media around the world. And, Peyton has given the Smithsonian Museum permission to include it in their COVID-19 exhibit.





Green infrastructures provide environmental benefits

Green infrastructure is a cost-effective, resilient approach to managing wet weather impacts that provides many community benefits. Through a four-part green infrastructure series, University of Illinois Extension Horticulture Educator Austin Little explored the important role green infrastructure systems plays in improving the built environment by managing storm water, reducing energy costs, and increasing green space. Topics discussed included green roofs, green walls and permeable pavement.

The Perry County Extension office has a new address: 203 North Walnut, located inside the new Perry County Community Center. After twenty-five years in the lower level of the Perry County Government Building, staff will stretch out in the south wing of the former Family Medical Center. The 20,000 square foot building is owned by the City of Pinckneyville and may be home to other tenants in the future. A large section of the lower level provides ample space for programming and youth and community events, making it the ideal location for Extension.

Perry County Extension Moves to New Location



Over the course of the fall, Illinois Extension will continue a phased return to in-person programming to ensure that proper safety protocols, space management plans, and public health requirements are fully adopted by the organization. To learn more about upcoming events and activities, visit extension.illinois.edu/global/events.

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