

Impacting YOU

"Impacting You"
is a monthly report
used to communicate

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

Dear Valued Stakeholder:

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

155

**Total Direct
Contacts**

(Excluding SNAP-ED)

9

**Total Number
of Programs &
Events**

SNAP-ED

1,668

**Total Direct
Contacts**

Federally funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) is nutrition education provided for SNAP participants and other low-income individuals.

103

**Total Number of
Programs & Events**

Students Learn the Value of Shopping Local

University of Illinois Extension is instilling the importance of local shopping with the youngest cohort of consumers: elementary school students. Created by Community and Economic Development Extension Specialist Susan Odum, the *Cha-Ching! Into the Community Chest* is a simulated exercise that teaches the importance of shopping local while encouraging entrepreneurial thinking in a fun, interactive way. The program includes a "buy local" board game that introduces the students to the concept of shopping local so they have a better understanding of the community services that are supported through local dollars. The game demonstrates how spending money in the local economy can lead to activities and initiatives that would interest them such as new parks or special events in the town they live in.



Harvesting Native and Indigenous Perennial Seeds



During a recent seed collecting workshop hosted by University of Illinois Extension, Horticulture Educator Austin Little shared tips and techniques on collecting and harvesting seeds for use in the spring. He spoke specifically about native species which are a great addition to butterfly gardens, rain gardens and backyards. These plants are adapted to the local climate and soil conditions where they naturally occur. For individuals interested in learning more about horticulture related topics, the Master Gardener program is accepting applications for the spring 2020 class. To learn more, visit: <https://extension.illinois.edu/fjprw/master-gardeners>

Youth Create Artwork at Watercolor Workshop

Through 4-H visual arts projects, youth can be creative, express themselves, and make an impression. At a recent watercolor painting workshop, Franklin County 4-H members learned new techniques using washable markers and baggies before creating their own beautiful artwork. 4-H members can enter projects created at workshops at the county fair. Students who need resources for a particular project can contact their local Extension office for manuals and project books. Want to learn more about about the projects offered through 4-H? Visit:

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/projects>

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