

How We Do It:

- Newsletters:
 - Clover Power (4-H)
 - Conservation Connections
 - Consumer News
 - Diabetes Life Lines
 - Down To Earth (Horticulture)
 - Food for Thought
 - FNP (Food & Nutrition)
 - The Leasing Forum/Pike County Agriculture Update
 - Local Government Matters
 - Nibbles
 - Parenting Again
 - Pike County Economic Development News
 - Strengthening Families
 - Working Families
 - Your Health & You
- Weekly news releases in local newspapers and special features in regional newspapers. Weekly column in the Pike County Express.
- Television features on KHQA, WGEM, and WSEC/WQEC.
- Radio programs on WBBA, WGEM, WTAD, WQCY, and WUIS.
- Workshops and special interest programming throughout Pike County.
- 30,205 internet users access educational information annually through the Pike County Extension website.

Staff:

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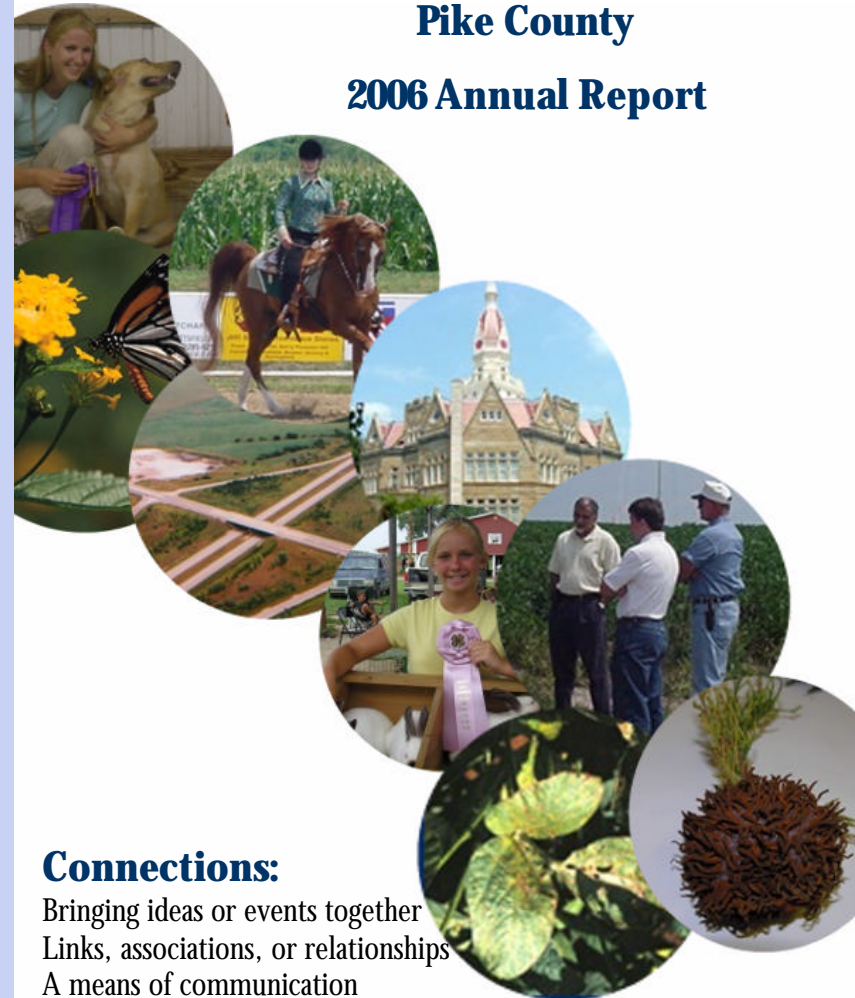
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EXTENSION

University of Illinois Extension Pike County 2006 Annual Report



Connections:

Bringing ideas or events together
Links, associations, or relationships
A means of communication



Establishing Connections

Each year our world seems to be changing more rapidly than ever. In the world of Extension, we work to meet the challenges of adapting to new needs, while continuing to honor and preserve the heritage that has sustained the people, the land and the communities of Pike County.

Extension can be compared with a series of connecting circles. Within each sphere of interest, there are distinct elements. But at the point where one circle overlaps another, there are combinations of both circles. The result is a stronger link for all parts of each circle and a broader influence for the whole group, as well as the individual.

We are proud to serve as a conduit for information and programs that enable Pike County residents to connect with information, ideas, and each other. During 2006, our Unit had the opportunity to interact with more people than before and to enhance the scope of our educational programs. Here in Pike County, we continue to connect with many other agencies, organizations and individuals; but as our circles grow ever wider, we remain committed to the pursuit of our mission of helping people of all ages and backgrounds put knowledge to work!

Enhancing Opportunities for Growth

- Over \$150,000 in grant receipts within Pike County. Assisted with 14 community and civic organization grant searches and preparation.
- More than 50 potential entrepreneurs and existing businesses benefited from business planning services.



- 8 participated in MVP (Mayors & Village Presidents) Forums.
- Over 60 community leaders were educated in DCEO incentive programs including Enterprise Zones.
- Provided assistance in Enterprise Zone application.
- 8 local elected officials were educated in public policy.
- 72 businesses participated in a business retention and expansion program.
- 17 participated in Western Illinois Leadership Academy.
- Completed Site Selection Boot Camp to develop business attraction proposals and marketing.



Discovering Practical & Timely Solutions

- 250 WIC participants, over 100 food pantry clients, and over 150 senior center clients received nutrition education.
- 33 county food handlers graduated from the 16 hour Food Service Sanitation Course.
- 475 families received monthly nutrition information to improve health.
- Over 80 gained ideas to stay active during the holiday season.
- 33 participated in Smart Steps to improve their fitness level through increased physical activity and healthy food choices.
- Approximately 20 learned menu ideas and tasteful options for living with diabetes.



- 40 childcare providers received continuing education credit.
- More than 350 Wild Game Cookbooks were distributed at local food pantries.
- 72 educators gained an in-depth look at agriculture and lesson ideas to incorporate agriculture into their classrooms.
- 520 farmers received updated ag information by newsletter, email and personal contact.
- 30 women learned farm marketing and management strategies.
- Nearly 30 farmers and landowners networked with agricultural specialists during an Ag Coffee Break in Hull.
- All county churches received quarterly fact sheets to help strengthen family relations.
- Over 300 Home and Community Education members gained knowledge in cooking skills and home safety.



Building Skills for Lifelong Learning

- 525 participated in 4-H workshops, clinics and educational events.
- 169 youth enrolled in 14 4-H clubs supported by 33 club leaders.
- 16 youth developed leadership and communication skills in 4-H Federation.
- 16 teens gained experience in teaching learning activities for 4-H members.
- Griggsville-Perry K-2 students participated in a comprehensive health education program.
- 8 teens learned about careers, communication, budgeting and nutrition in Workforce Investment's Youth Experiencing Success summer program.



- 100 youth attended Farm Safety 4 Just Kids Day.
- Over 80 classrooms in Pike County participated in one or more Youth Development Lessons.
- All county 3rd grade classes (175 students) participated in the seven lesson Operation Safe Kids program.
- All K-5 classrooms, over 2000 students, participated in four Ag in the Classroom lessons learning about agriculture and all types of agricultural commodities.
- 1200 K-5th grade students learned to make healthier food choices, physical activity, and proper hand washing.



Promoting Environmental Responsibility

- 82 individuals became certified in safe pesticide application.
- 510 households receive a monthly horticulture newsletter.
- Conservation Day activities were attended by 200 youth.
- Nearly 70 gained insight into wind energy as a renewable power resource.
- The Pike County Solid Waste Plan was updated.
- Over 1300 students participated in six recycling and solid waste lessons.
- Over 300 Home and Community Education members learned about gardening safely.

