Berkeley County Annual Report 2018

Putting Knowledge to Work!

The West Virginia University Extension Service works to provide solutions in your community through key programs and resources, including agriculture and natural resources; 4-H and youth development; food and nutrition; health and wellness; financial planning; and home gardening. These research-based programs and services are available to all Berkeley County residents thanks to the tremendous support of our community members, local organizations, volunteers and local partners, including the Board of Education and County Commission.

Highlights

- The 4-H Glitter-beard Challenge, led by Berkeley County WVU Extension Service, spurred the collection of 733 new toys for distribution to families in need during the holidays.
- The Berkeley-Jefferson Extension Master Gardeners provided more than 3,600 hours of community service through educational talks, demonstrations and workshops.
- The Parenting Apart class for separated couples taught 92 participants how to affectively co-parent their children after their divorce.

4-H and Youth Development

Tri-county Camping

- Each year, Berkeley County serves more than 200 youths as part of the 4-H camping program. Classes range from STEM-based learning to global education. The camp also incorporates many leadership opportunities for a wide variety of diverse members.

Blender Bikes

- Blender bikes are a fun way to incorporate healthy living into a student’s life. Students can choose from a variety of fruit, milk and natural sweeteners to add to their smoothies. They then pedal the bikes and watch their creation come to life. This has been a huge hit at family nights and career days.

Code Your World

- Interactive coding lessons for kindergarten through 12th grade students were provided to educators free of charge.

Heritage Days

- Students explore the dairy industry while learning about the butter-making process using agitation as they see how the molecules change from a liquid to a solid. Students also learn
West Virginia history by expanding their knowledge of songs and traditions, which allows members to learn how 4-H has been impacted by this history.

**Community Clubs**
- Berkeley County currently offers more than 20 4-H club options. With locations throughout the entire county, the clubs meet in schools, churches and other community venues.

**Special Interest Programs**
- Berkeley County WVU Extension Service offers the following specialized teams and groups: Bees Knees Beekeeping, Youth Leadership Association, Livestock Judging, Horse Evaluation, a newly composed Soil and Land Judging Team, a revitalized Dairy Judging Team, the 2018 State Winning Poultry Judging Team and a very diverse STEM Club.

**School-based 4-H Clubs**
- Berkeley County WVU Extension Service is piloting a school-based 4-H club at Eagle School Intermediate this year. The goal is to be able to expand this program to five schools in the 2019 to 2020 school year.

**School Enrichment Programs**
- Part of WVU Extension Service’s motto encourages developmental growth through hands-on learning. WVU Extension Service 4-H Agent Michael Withrow is currently seeking funding for a variety of different lessons that could be taught. The hope is to secure funding to make all of these new opportunities available by the fall term of 2019.

**Agriculture and Natural Resources**

**Extension Master Gardener Program**
- This volunteer group reached more than 2,200 people, including more than 800 youths, through a variety of programs, such as the Master Gardener plant sale, Tomatofest, Gardening 101, the Martinsburg Home Show, community education outreach and the Berkeley County WVU Extension Service Open House.

**Agricultural Dinner Meetings**
- Three agricultural dinner meetings were held in 2018 covering grazing, beef cattle health and weed control. A total of 112 people attended and provided feedback via evaluations.

**Pesticide Education Programs**
- More than 100 private applicators attended the programs and earned credits for license renewal.

**Food Safety Grower Training**
- 23 producers were educated about the new Food Safety Modernization Act and food safety as it relates to their business.

**Eastern Panhandle Growers Workshop**
- The Berkeley County WVU Extension Service assisted with tours to local facilities and workshops intended to make production information more readily available to growers in the Eastern Panhandle.
Berkeley County Youth Fair
- The livestock sale sold 219 animals, including 51 beef, 49 sheep, 90 swine and 29 goats, for a total weight of 94,539 pounds, resulting in $355,534 being generated.
- The Berkeley County WVU Extension Service provided a children’s activity corner at the Berkeley County Youth Fair.
- 13 youths participated in the Livestock Jeopardy competition.

School Gardens
- The Berkeley County WVU Extension Service consulted with schools regarding establishment and maintenance of school gardens. One school created a new garden and another expanded their involvement by installing a high tunnel to lengthen the growing season.

Other
- The WVU Extension Service ANR agent in Berkeley County provided a weekly column to the “Martinsburg Journal” giving notice of upcoming events, as well as a timely article on an agricultural topic to increase agricultural literacy.
- Gardening programs were presented to 146 participants, including 114 youths.
- 226 soil sample results and recommendations were provided for more than 2,000 acres in Berkeley County.
- The WVU Extension Service ANR agent in Berkeley County consulted with clients across the county.

Family and Community Development

Community Educational Outreach Service
- Berkeley County has 106 CEOS members through seven community clubs.
- Notable CEOS achievements for the year included:
  - 3,552 books read by CEOS members.
  - 18,000 CEOS volunteer hours were served.
  - CEOS members studied 19 different educational lessons.
  - CEOS members hosted several club-level craft workshops.

Dining with Diabetes
- Dining with Diabetes classes reached a total of 61 adults in 2018. 35 individuals attended class sessions in Berkeley and Jefferson counties (two classes running on the same day) and 17 individuals attended class sessions in Morgan County. In January 2018, a follow-up class was held for the November 2017 course, which was attended by nine participants.

Family Nutrition Program
- This health and wellness program for limited income families reached 926 youths and 62 adults in 2018.

Maintain, Don’t Gain
- This holiday awareness program reached almost 300 people during the 2017 to 2018 campaign.
Life Skills with Telamon

- Cooking and shopping skills were taught to nearly 80 limited-resource attendees.

Other

- 16 youths participated in a healthy outdoor cooking class held during Intermediate 4-H camp.
- Now retired WVU Extension Service Families and Health agent in Berkeley County, Sue Flanagan, published 20 newspaper articles in the local newspaper.
- Now retired WVU Extension Service Families and Health agent in Berkeley County represented WVU at high school graduations and college signing days.
- WVU Extension Service Families and Health agent in Berkeley County, Sue Flanagan, retired October 2, 2018.