Morgan County Annual Report 2018

Putting Knowledge to Work!

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 Morgan 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 WVU Morgan County Extension Service office moved into their new facility in January. We appreciate the support of the County Commissioners for providing our new space. We were very thankful for the many volunteers and our families who helped us set up the office space and move all our stuff. The meeting space provided is being used by Extension groups and at least seven other community organizations.

4-H and Youth Development

Activities:

Camping
- 40 members participated in Tri-County Camp with 4-H members from Morgan, Berkeley and Jefferson Counties.
- Agent served as director of Tri-County Intermediate camp serving 150 campers with a staff of 40 from the three counties.
- Six members attended a week-long 4-H state camp.
- Four members attended statewide 4-H weekends.
- Agent and colleagues created a peer-reviewed camp science activity on monarch butterflies that was used at summer camps all across the state.

4-H School-Based Programs
- STEM Ambassador, Carmen Winiarski presented monthly STEM activities to every student at Pleasant View and Paw Paw Elementary. She was also able to offer programs to first and
second graders at Widmyer Elementary, third and fourth graders at Warm Springs Intermediate School, Camp MoCo and students in the Head Start program.

- Volunteer Gray Jones offered robotics classes to third and fourth grade students at Warm Springs Intermediate School.
- All fifth grade students at Warm Springs Intermediate School had a lesson in budgeting.
- Health Educator Amie Middlekauff offered lessons on healthy eating and trying new vegetables at Warm Springs Intermediate School and Camp MoCo.
- National 4-H science experiment presented at 33 classes in the county.
- Leadership style taught to four senior classes and at the Morgan County Partnership Leadership Academy.

**Traditional 4-H Programming and Clubs**

- There are currently four community-based 4-H clubs in the county. Each member participates in the county fair and in community service projects.
- $1,451 was awarded to members for club work and fair projects.
- Members participated in trips to Mount Vernon, Whitetail snow tubing, bowling and roller skating.
- Agent and colleagues rewrote the self-determined project book, which is being piloted across the state.

**Special Interest Programs**

- The Relentless Robotics program fielded a Jr. FLL team, three FLL teams, a VEX IQ team and two FTC teams. One of the FLL teams was chosen to represent the region at the state competition.
- Over $7,000 was donated for the robotics program.

**Camp MoCo (Summer Enrichment)**

- Provided summer reading and STEM enrichment, along with breakfast and lunch for 172 children. Children also received two books a week for their personal libraries.
- Summer employment for 10 AmeriCorps members and six teachers.

**Family and Health**

- CEOS volunteers donated over 8,000 hours of community service.
- CEOS members donated $6,887 to community organizations.
• Agent serves on the board of the Morgan County Partnership and the Partners in Prevention committee. Both organizations are committed to working on the drug misuse epidemic in Morgan County.
• New blood pressure screening station in office.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Master Gardener Program
• Master Gardeners documented 2,900 hours of service to the community.
• WVU Extension Master Gardeners donated $2,387 to local organizations and generated $6,442 for projects, scholarships and educational programs for the community.

Local Foods
• MCAFF (Morgan County Association for Food & Farms) provided $1,858 in matching SNAP coupons at the farmers market benefitting both SNAP recipients and local farmers.
• Health Educator offered a pop-up market at the back to school backpack give away. 150 students received $4 to spend on fresh fruits and vegetables. Four local farmers were present so students could buy produce.

Educational Programs
• In partnership with the Farm Bureau, programs were presented on the needs of the local farmers market, insurance and Natural Resources Conservation Services programs.
• Answer constituent’s questions on many agriculture and horticulture related topics.
• Provide 115 free soil testing kits to county constituents.

Pesticide Recertification
• Five farmers received yearly recertification.

Community Development/Tourism/Economic Development

Morgan County Day of Caring
• 215 individuals contributed to 20 projects around the county, including students from Berkeley Springs High School.

Morgan County Schools Day of Caring
• 80 High School Students participated in six projects around the county providing support to nonprofits in our community. Students were learned about volunteers and organizations that work in our community. Middle school activities were cancelled due to rain.