

Report to Lane County Board of Commissioners November 17, 2004

Submitted by Charlotte Riersgard
OSU/Lane County Extension Service Staff Chair

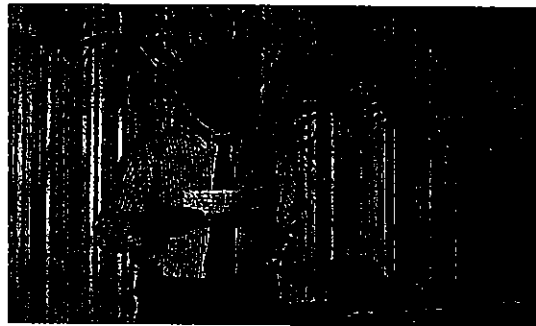
Upcoming

Programs/Events

- 12/1 Advisory Meeting
- 12/2 Core Pesticide Training
- 12/7 Forest Tax Workshop
- 12/8 Holiday Breads Workshop
- 1/12 2005 Master Gardener Training Begins
- 1/15 Pruning: Apples & Peaches
- 1/20 Pruning: Tree Fruits & Ornamentals (Florence)
- 1/22 Shaggy Day Horse Show
- 1/27 Food Pantry Training
- 1/27 Pruning: Tree Fruits
- 1/29 4-H Horse Fashion Show & Tack Swap
- 2/3 Pruning: Tree Fruits
- 2/5 Pruning: Tree Fruits & Blueberries
- 2/8-9 PNW Pesticide Short Course
- 2/5 Pruning: Blueberries, Grapes & Tree Fruits
- 2/12 Forestry Seedling Sale
- 2/19 Pruning: Tree Fruits
- 2/22 Pruning: Roses

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▲ On October 14, 13 decision makers joined about 100 Extension volunteers and community members to welcome the new staff chair and learn about Lane County Extension programs and services at a reception.
- ▲ The Nutrition Education Program brings over \$450,000 in USDA federal funding to Lane County each year for nutrition education.
- ▲ Fifty-five active Master Food Preservers volunteered 5,100 hours this summer and fall.
- ▲ The Compost Specialist program reached over 12,000 members of Lane County with information about composting and diverting composting material from the Lane County landfill.
- ▲ Master Gardeners made over \$300 on their first annual garden tour fundraiser.
- ▲ One hundred thirty-five Lane County 4-H'ers entered exhibits at the Oregon State Fair.
- ▲ The Hoecker Extension Innovative Grant was awarded to the Lane County Extension Food Pantry Project to further develop the project and to assist food box recipients better utilize commodities.
- ▲ Lane County residents Lamoine and Enid Savage, Len Calvert, Norbert Vandehey, and Don Owen (posthumously) were inducted into the 4-H Hall of Fame. The creation of the 4-H Hall of Fame celebrates 100 years of 4-H in Oregon.
- ▲ Nellie Oehler received the Distinguished Service award from the national Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP).
- ▲ The Distinguished Team Award was presented to Nellie Oehler, Anna Galas, Susan Busler, and Dana Baxter from the national ESP.
- ▲ The Classified Team Award was presented to Denise Ashley, Linda Garton, Kelly Makinson, Linda Renslow, and Tammy White (office specialists) and Karen Cholewinski (accounting technician) by Oregon State University Extension Association.



Congressman DeFazio at a recent Extension Service reception.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (FCD)

Faculty: Susan Busler and Nellie Oehler

FOOD-BORNE ILLNESS RAISES CONCERNS

Each year in the United States, 76 million people get sick from food-borne illness, more than 325,000 are hospitalized and 5,000 die, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said. *Source: The New York Times, Associated Press, 10/18/04.* According to the Infectious Diseases Society of America (8/4/04), the extreme toxicity of botulism makes it a potentially lethal type of food poisoning—and a possible agent of bio-terrorist attack.

While there are many causes of food-borne illness, botulism is one that has recently made the news in Oregon. "The botulism story featured in the *Eugene Register Guard* on Sunday, November 7th, shows the importance of using up-to-date canning instructions if you are going to preserve foods," says Nellie Oehler, OSU/Lane County Extension Service FCD Faculty. Many phone calls have been received at the OSU/Lane County Extension Service office since the botulism article appeared, asking questions about foods canned this summer.

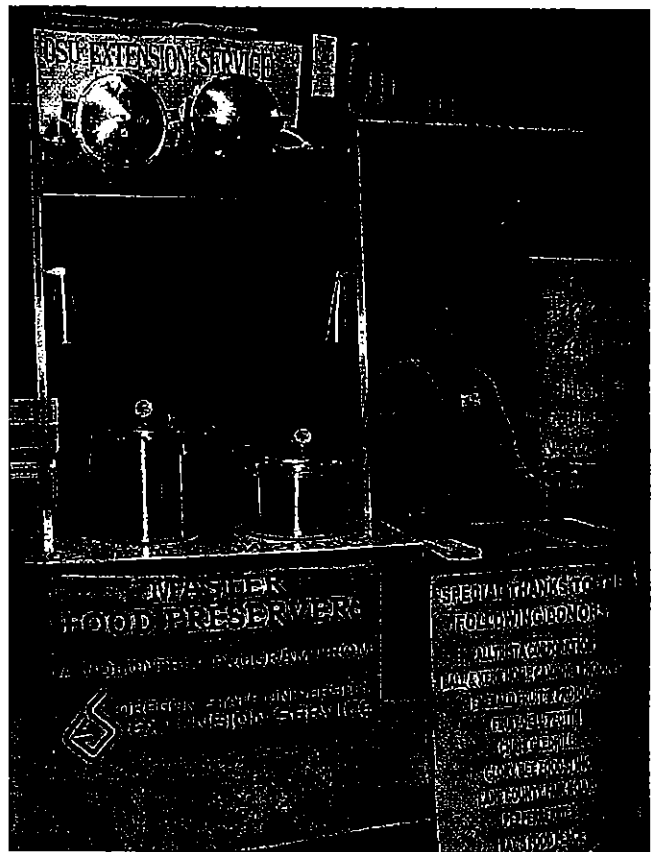
Some food safety questions raising red flags include: "I left my turkey out all night, is it ok to eat it anyway?" "I water-bathed my green beans, can I still eat them?" "How many books do I put on my water-bath canner to build up pressure to can my beans?" "There are worms on my sauerkraut. Can I eat it anyway?"

Master Food Preserver (MFP) Program Success

The 2004 Master Food Preserver/Family Food Education volunteers have been very active this summer and fall. Fifty-five active MFP volunteered 5,100 hours this summer and fall. At \$17.19 per hour (the national value given to volunteer service by the Independent Sector) the total in-kind contribution of MFP volunteers to Lane County is \$87,669.

2004 MFP Accomplishments

The MFP program accomplishments include: conducting two successful Food Faires with over 100 attendees who learned hands-on food preservation; staffing two food preservation/safety hotlines reaching well over 6,000 individuals; presenting food preservation/safety demonstrations and programs; judging at community fairs; and testing pressure canner gauges. They provided food preservation/safety information at the following community gatherings reaching over 2,200 people: Western Oregon Expo; Doris Ranch;



MFP volunteer teaches pressure canner safety.

Florence Home Show; Blackberry Jam at Lowell; and the Strawberry Days at Lone Pine. MFP volunteers presented demonstrations and workshops at: LDS Church (several programs); Veneta Hunter's workshop; three Healthy Futures Classes for FOOD for Lane County; Springfield Library; Boy Scouts; and the Lane County Fair.

Oregon Association of Health Physical Education Recreation and Dance Professionals PNW Conference
The FCD faculty attended this conference and presented "Taming the Terror: Handling Challenging Behaviors in Groups." The 47 participants said they planned to share workshop information with staff, use it in their classrooms, become more understanding of challenging behaviors, create verbal cues for behavior solutions, be more consistent, and develop a management plan that positively helps students.

Lane County Food Coalition

Extension representatives met with FOOD for Lane County staff and representatives from the Food Coalition and Food Policy Council to develop the next steps in the process.

NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND PARTNERS

Faculty: Charlotte Riersgard, Anna Galas and Dana Baxter

Thirty Years Of Service to Lane County

For over three decades the OSU/Lane County Extension Service Nutrition Education Programs (NEP) has implemented the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and for the last decade offered the Oregon Family Nutrition Program (OFNP). Through these programmatic efforts, nutrition education is taught in group and individual classes, outreach events, single events and in a series, to limited resource adults, families, and youth.

Improving Community Health

In partnership with numerous public service agencies and community organizations, NEP addresses the following program goals: dietary quality, food security, food safety, and food resource management based around the Food Guide Pyramid.

Bringing Funds to Lane County

NEP brings over \$450,000 in USDA federal funding to Lane County each year. A rigorous cost-benefit analysis determined that for every \$1 invested to improve adult nutrition behaviors, a savings of \$3.63 in future health care costs can be expected. *Source: EFNEP 1999-2000 Cost Benefit Analysis.*

Federal funding for OFNP programming allows for a dollar match opportunity. For every dollar matched with a public service agency and/or community organization in providing nutrition education, NEP has been able to request a 1:1 match in funding. Of that funding NEP has been able to match \$96,250. In terms of matched funding for 2003 - 2004, Lane County contributed over \$58,300 and local community and state support provided over \$37,800. As the concerns with hunger and obesity continue to rise in Oregon, the ability to expand NEP to meet the needs of Lane County residents becomes all that more crucial.

FOOD PANTRY PROJECT UPDATE

The Food Pantry Project is a collaboration with FOOD for Lane County, LCE Nutrition Education Program, Extension Homemaker Program, and the Master Food Preserver volunteers. The purpose of the program is to assist food box recipients prepare nutritious and interesting meals from the commodities they are given.

Fifty volunteers were trained in the fall and half are actively participating at pantry sites. Over 3,300 pantry recipients have been given instruction by Extension volunteers. There have been 100 demonstrations at pantries, reaching almost all the pantry sites in Lane County. Demonstrations on cooking without a kitchen have reached 125 residents. Two pantry cookbooks have been developed and distributed at the pantry sites.

FY2003-04	Federal	Match	Total
EFNEP	\$ 2,44,503		\$ 2, 44,503
County		\$ 20,237	\$ 20,237
OFNP	\$ 95,322		\$ 95,322
Other		\$ 37,868	\$ 37,868
County		\$ 58,382	\$ 58,382
Total	\$ 339,825	\$116,487	\$ 4, 56,312

NEP Programming

From August through October, NEP served adult and youth audiences in the following communities: Florence, Eugene, Springfield, Mapleton, Cottage Grove and Creswell. Over 16 different Food Pantry sites were served monthly throughout Lane County stretching from Florence to Oakridge. Women, Infants and Children, Department of Health and Services and other outreach efforts focused on Eugene, Springfield, and Florence areas.

Enrollment	Adult	Youth
OFNP	141	26
EFNEP	32	105

Outreach/Single Event Contacts

WIC	50
Pantries	379
DHS	113

Community Partners/Agencies 145



Food Pantry Project volunteers training to make bread pudding with commodities.

FORESTRY

Faculty: Steve Bowers

Oregon Forest Tax Update Set for December

In 2004, all forestland owners transferred into a new Forestland Tax Program. All forestland owners with at least two acres, but less than 10, were automatically transferred into the program. Those with larger acreages could opt for the Small Tract Forestland (STF) Option. The difference between the two options is "pay me now or pay me later." Those in the STF Option pay reduced property taxes, but are assessed a Severance Tax when they harvest their timber. The way the two programs are devised, there is not a large difference in the amount of total taxes paid to the State. With one program you pay on an annual basis, with the other, you defer most of your taxes until harvest. Several workshops on this tax change were held in early 2004. Workshops are again planned in December and through the winter to help the forestland owners understand this new taxing system.

National Tree Day, August 18

A workshop on Log Merchandising, Felling and Bucking and a 2003 Oregon Forest Tax Update was given at the 20th Anniversary of Tree Day in August. A 'Logs to Lumber' demonstration was also presented that takes the participants through the process of measuring a tree for height, diameter and standing volume; felling and bucking techniques; safety issues; proper tools; grading and scaling the felled tree; cutting a log from the felled tree into lumber; and finally measuring the lumber volume as compared to the log volume (overrun). This year approximately 70-80 people participated.

Forest Field Day

Thirty-four Springfield Middle School students participated in an October Forest Field Day. Students learned to measure timber (tree identification, measurements including height, diameter and age) and management options. The scenario of Forest Field Day was for the students to consider how they would manage their inherited timberland from the perspective of timber management, fish and wildlife, soil and water, and recreation. This is a popular event for the schools and also for the volunteers who conduct the presentations: numerous individuals from private industry, public entities (BLM, US Fish and Wildlife, USFS, OSU Extension); Oregon Small Woodlands Association; and Master Woodland Manager volunteers.

4-H and SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

Faculty: Nellie Oehler, Amy Rowe, Sara Miller

Oregon State Fair

One hundred thirty-five 7-12th graders participated in different competitions including: foods, clothing, horticulture, woodworking, art, photography, dogs, rabbits, cavies, poultry, sheep, goats, beef, swine, and horse. Most contests were viewed by the public. Participants in livestock contests also interacted with the public during their week-long stay at the state fairgrounds.

"4-H Day" at Valley River Center

Fifteen 4-H members greeted 5,000 community members and potential 4-H'ers at the Valley River Center recently. Staff gave the public information about joining 4-H and ran a "petting zoo."

Goat Clinic

Sixty youth attended two sessions and learned about different aspects of goat health including a demonstration of internal organ locations.

Fall Fun Horse Show

One hundred youth and adults took part in various fun and educational horse project activities during the event.

4-H Year Kicks Off In October

The 4-H year began in October and students are signing-up for clubs and adults are signing-up to support youth by becoming leaders. Twenty-five adults attended two 4-H new leader training sessions and learned ways to effectively work with youth and run their 4-H clubs.

Dog Program

The 4-H dog program recently formed a partnership with the Eugene Petco store. The store will host "4-H Dog Days" on November 20. Children received information on training and walked away with a recipe for dog biscuits.

COMMERCIAL HORTICULTURE, HOME GARDENING

Faculty: Ross Penhallegon

Program Asst.: Pat Patterson

Eastern Filbert Blight

Eastern Filbert Blight (EFB) continues to be a major concern. The dry, hot summer allowed many diseased branches to show the disease. Reports of EFB infections in August include two trees and an orchard in Springfield and one tree in Mokawk. Reports of EFB in September include two trees in Corvallis, one in Jasper, one in Springfield/Yolanda and Dorris Ranch, Springfield. Keeping EFB under control in Lane County is saving the \$3.5 million hazelnut industry.

West Nile Virus (WNV)

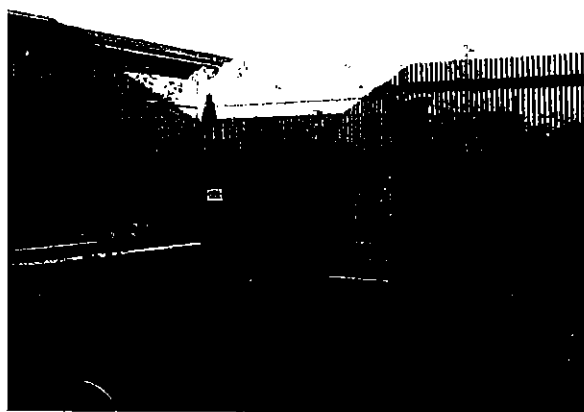
In October a bird in Benton County was diagnosed with WNV, one horse was diagnosed in Linn County and two birds in Lane County. We can expect an upsurge in cases in the spring.

REGIONAL COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK AND FORAGE

Faculty: Shelby Filley

Vaccines and De-wormers for Sheep and Beef Cattle; Pasture Soil Testing and Fertilizing; Livestock Identification and the ODA Brand Inspection Program are some of the topics covered by Shelby Filley, the Regional Livestock and Forage Specialist, at monthly commercial livestock meetings in Springfield. She offers the commercial growers tips on saving money and the latest in scientific growing techniques. Check out her website at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/L&F/livestock.php>. She also distributes a quarterly newsletter with information on upcoming classes, livestock nutrition information, body conditioning, scoring of sheep, pasture management, planning for profit, and much more.

She also offers special activities for Lane County's livestock growers including a Summer Picnic and Club Calf Sale and Fitting Clinic, as well as full courses on Pasture Management and other topics.



The Adaptive Garden was moved from the fairgrounds to the Extension Service Office this summer. The move was prompted by vandalism. Its' new location is an attractive oasis for Extension visitors and provides education on alternative gardening methods.

Master Gardener Program

The Master Gardener Program is perhaps most busy during the summer months. In August, September and October, Master Gardener (MG) volunteers made contact with **10,184 residents**. Those contacts were made by staffing the "Hotline;" tending the GrassRoots Garden; working on the Adaptive Garden; the Huerto de la Familia (The Family Garden); teaching composting and pruning techniques; and more.

In August Master Gardeners grew and donated 956 pounds of produce for the "Grow an Extra Row" effort. The produce was donated to FOOD for Lane County and other local food box projects.

The Huerto de la Familia provided gardening plots and education to 12 Latino families (39 individuals) this gardening season at two sites: Churchill Community Garden and Skinner City Farm. Participants' children joined the new children's program. They received books with stories about bugs and plants and participated in activities like releasing ladybugs, planting seeds, playing in a child-sized garden and enjoying a visit from the swallowtail butterfly, Kinder Ritter, from Nearby Nature.

Home gardening continues to be an important trend for Lane County. Ninety-one Lane County residents applied for the 2005 Master Gardener Program. Since the program can accommodate only 45, those who were not accepted into the program are encouraged to participate in the Community Gardener Seminars and to reapply in future years. Every Master Gardener graduate pledges to pay back 66-hours of community service.

OUTREACH EFFORTS

The OSU/Lane County Extension Service makes many efforts to reach out to Lane County residents to inform them about our many educational services and programs. Here is a sampling of those efforts:

Lane County Fair

Fifteen thousand Lane County residents stopped at one of the many Extension Service booths during the week of the Lane County Fair. Here are some of the reasons visitors gave for appreciating Extension: "Extension always answers my questions. It's like having a Mom on the phone;" "Answered all my questions about raising chickens for eggs;" "Helped me build a pond;" "Explained how to grow Christmas Trees;" "Identified an unknown (poisonous) plant growing in my yard;" and "Helped me learn to can and bake;"

The Beeper Show and Fox T.V.

Every Tuesday, Extension faculty make the pilgrimage to Cottage Grove to give radio audiences educational information about a host of topics. Some of those include: Garden Cleanup; Food Pantry Project and Nutrition; Fall Gardening; Ag in the Classroom and Wildlife Stewards; Turkey Time; Reforestation Rules; and Fire and Firewood. Fox T.V. gives Extension a one minute prime time promotion each week.

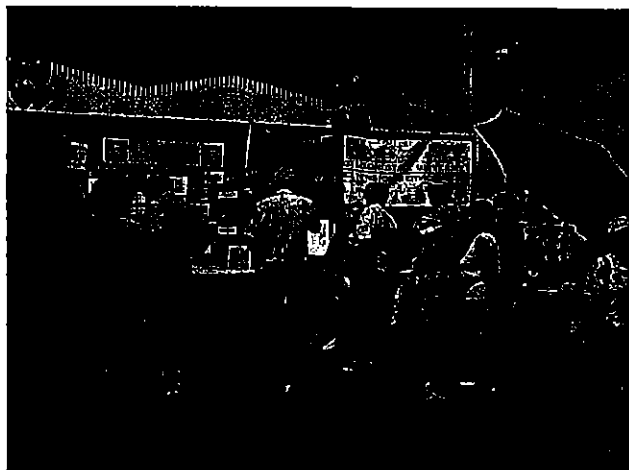
Print Media

Each quarter *The Extension News* is distributed in the *Register Guard* (80,000 cir.), the *Dead Mountain Echo Hollow* (2,500 cir.) and mailed to 2,000 customers. This publication is one of the most popular ways the public learns about Extension programs, projects and resources.

Many program areas distribute monthly program updates to volunteers and commercial customers including the *Horticulture News*, The "Lane Woodland News," "The Garden Gate," "The Brew" and others.

EXTENSION STAFFING

- ▲ The Nutrition Education Program Secretary has retired and her position has been reclassified and posted as an Office Secretary II.
- ▲ A new Nutrition Education Faculty position has been filled by Dana Baxter, the former Nutrition Coordinator.
- ▲ A Nutrition Education Coordinator position has been posted and will be filled in-house.
- ▲ The Office Manager position is now posted and will reflect some new duties.
- ▲ The 4-H Faculty position remains in transition.



15,000 visited the Extension Service booths during the Lane County Fair.

About 28 press releases are sent to 48 media each month with educational tips, crop updates, and program information.

Website Hits

In September there were 15,772 hits on Lane County Extension Service web sites. Customers can download publications and registration forms, complete surveys and read newsletters online, and retrieve other information. In its pursuit to be user friendly and meet the needs of Lane County residents, Lane County Extension Service's website has become more interactive: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane/>.

Family Day at the Fall Home Show

About 200 elementary school age children and their parents visited the Extension's Family Day on Sunday, October 10 to enjoy many hands-on activities. Among the activities were: making herbal greeting cards; learning about worms and how they help dispose of kitchen waste and help make healthy gardens; participating in an interactive relay game about the Food Guide

Pyramid; identifying trees; and making 4-H crafts and petting 4-H project dogs.



Lane County Extension Service
Oregon State University
950 W. 13th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97402-3913
Phone: 541-682-4243,
Fax: 541-682-2377
<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane>