Northeast Region Advisory Council Meeting  
October 1, 2010  
Sharing

**Kankakee County—Presented by Alex Panozzo**

**4-H Youth Development**
All went well at the fair in August; new 4-H year sign-ups are beginning. We will continue to request a $20 program fee per child. We are beginning the Shooting Sports program and offering rifle/BB. We need to have others trained in archery and shotgun before we can add those. Donna Nuger used Camp Shaw for Natural Resource Days and has a Find Out About 4-H Day and a Harry Potter overnighter planned in October.

**Family Life**
Chelsey has two to three Life Story Writing sessions going. The new group has 18 participants. Along with the program, another Family Life Educator is delivering to IMRF (Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund) retirees “Fit Wits” at a number of sessions in the region. We are Partnering with Catholic Charities to provide a caregivers’ series which started this week. The Family Nutrition Program (Holly and Janet) is expanding in Head Start to monthly presentations to children and some parent programming. Another school district (Bradley) has crossed the 50% free and reduced lunch line this year so we can provide programming there.

**CED**
Barn Quilts of Kankakee County is up to 30 barns. It is getting good PR for the county and attracting visitors who spend their money in Kankakee! Applied for the Governor’s Hometown Award. We were not successful this year, but will try again next year. Alex is the chair of CED and has played a major role in bringing this program about.

**Ag/Natural Resources**
James Theuri worked with Sarah Mussman, Farm Business Farm Management Association; Susan Taylor, Consumer and Family Economics Educator; and a local attorney and offered two estate planning sessions for landowners which were very well received. There were 25 to 30 in each session. The Master Naturalist program was offered and was to begin in September, but there was not enough interest. Master Gardeners have been busy with numerous projects and at the Farmers’ Market each week. He has worked with a church in Kankakee on a community garden that has been very successful. The city has approached Alex for assistance in bringing more gardens to vacant lots. He would like to talk further with Richard Hentschel about ideas for expansion. Alex had done food demos at the church with school-age children who were very interested.

**McHenry County—Presented by Ed Schuckert**
Pam Garland and Jeanne Trampe from Lake County Council and Ed Schukert and Tom Dahlfors from McHenry County Council were selected to serve as Multi-County Unit Council Representatives to assist with the reorganization process. This team met on July 26, 2010, at Dunnhill’s restaurant with the Lake County and Interim McHenry County Directors to decide which office would be the main/satellite office starting July 1, 2011. The decision was to make Lake County the main office and McHenry County the satellite office.
August 16, 2010, the Lake County Extension Director, James Reaves, began serving as the Interim Director for McHenry County. He held his first staff meeting August 17 with members of the McHenry County Staff and Master Gardeners at their monthly meeting to introduce himself and give an update on Extension’s present situation. He has also:

- Met with USDA Suzana Markovic to setup pesticide testing dates for Lake/McHenry County.
- Conducted orientation for McHenry County new council members.
- Was introduced and gave Extension report at the McHenry County Farm Bureau meeting.
- Met with the McHenry County 4-H Foundation.
- Attended the McHenry County Master Gardeners annual picnic.
- Hired 4-H extra help staff member who began working September 13th to replace an Educator that resigned and Community worker that retired.
- Met with McHenry County Extension Council for their first meeting of the program year.
- Met with McHenry County 4-H Leaders at their first meeting of the program year.
- Attended the McHenry County Agriculture Leaders meeting.
- Began using the shared calendar on Outlook more to communicate with both McHenry and Lake County staff along with email.

4-H
2010 McHenry County Fair
- 347 4-H’ers exhibited at the fair
- 38 4-H’ers qualified to go to state fair

Program Calendar of Events

**June**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Sewing Workshop</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Aerospace Workshop</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Knitting Group</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>State Judging Contest</td>
<td></td>
<td>U of IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Dog Committee</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Ambassador Interviews</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Horse Committee</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>MCYTT</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Creative Quilters</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**July**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Aerospace</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10?</td>
<td>Dog Fun Match</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Dog Committee</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Dog Show</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Cat Show</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Fair Grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Knitting Group</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Clothing Judging</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Fair Grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Fair Set Up</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Fair Grounds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**August**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>4-H Night at Fair</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Fair Grounds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Master Gardener Program 2010
The year started with 90 plus active or “perennial” Master Gardeners and an extensive list of ongoing and new projects. New projects this year included a satellite booth at the Woodstock Farmer’s Market, which was voted the #2 Farmer’s Market in the state!

Demonstration gardens were grown at the county’s fairgrounds this year so that attendees could learn where their food comes from and has been extended to December, and several of our Gardeners got involved in composting this year either by completing the Master Composter training or getting involved in large scale composting at the Hooved Animal Humane Society, where a University Educator is working on a grant. Our demonstration garden at the local college started a “Saturdays in the Garden” educational series, and a group of Master Gardeners volunteered in the college’s greenhouse to grow plants for the grounds in exchange for space to grow seedlings for our garden.

Ongoing projects include the annual Gardenfest program at the college, which attracted over 265 attendees, and the GardenWalk had an astounding 443 individuals registered! The Gardeners continue to raise produce for local food pantries in two large gardens, and are mentoring four different school groups and several other civic organizations in the county who are doing the same. The office volunteers continue to man our hotline, and help callers and walk-in clients to identify disease, insect, and cultural problems they encounter.

Several of our Gardeners just returned from the Midwest Master Gardener Conference in Rockford, and there are a few who will be traveling internationally with our State Coordinator for further educational credit!

We are piloting a program to go out to communities such as the Del Webb Retirement Community. There were 274 people in attendance this summer.

Currently, training for 2011 is being organized, with interviews in late October for the 26 applicants from across the county. We are looking forward to 2011 and partnering with the Lake County MGs in some fun and educational ways!

FNP
FNP served over 1000 individuals during June, July and August. Schools and Headstart programs were closed down for the summer but we remained active with the food pantries of McHenry County, the senior programs, shelter programs and WIC. For the first time this summer, we provided programming to a summer Kids Club where we served K-5 children doing such programs as Cooking Schools and Nutrition Education. We are currently working to start programming in a brand new grade school in Harvard that serves children K-3. This will be a huge benefit to Extension and to the audience that we will serve once it is up and running.

Art of Wine Program Part II was held on July 24. It was taught by Brad Beam, U of I Enology Specialist, and there were 44 registrants.
**Will County—Presented by Doug Tweeten**

**Personnel**

From a small staff, we have lost a clerical position due to budget constraints, a Youth Educator to retirement, and our Unit Director has accepted a position elsewhere. Currently, Beth LaPlante, the County Director for Kankakee County, is filling in as Interim Director. Duties have been shuffled within the staff to try to cover most of the activities resulting from the loss of the other two positions.

**Reorganization**

Representatives of the counties of Grundy, Kankakee, and Will have been meeting to ease the transition to the new tri-county unit. Still under discussion is the location of the hub office for the new unit. The Transition Committee is currently considering a proposal to locate the hub office in a shuttered state prison near Wilmington. The Advisory Extension Council of Will has approved this plan.

**Local Funding**

In recent years funding has been a key issue in Will County. This year we have received favorable responses from the County Board and anticipate an increase in funding. We got $25,000 and think we can get the board to increase it. In addition, we are making presentations at board meetings at each of the 24 townships. We have received encouragement from all that we have visited to date and commitments from several. The Council plans to host a fundraiser for Extension again in the spring of 2011.

**Activities/Programs**

Extension has been aggressive in providing programming in spite of a reduction in funds and personnel. For the coming year, Extension will continue programs in pesticide safety and will add workshops on Viticulture and Poisonous Plants in the Pasture. Extension will host a Master Gardener Training Program and a Master Naturalist Training Program. A proposed joint project will use a combination of Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists working with the Will County Forest Preserve District to decrease the population of alien species. Programs on nutrition, healthy life style choices, and food safety will be delivered to school children, food pantries, diabetics, elderly, expectant moms, homeless shelters, and others in the current fiscal year. As a result, approximately 8000 children and 1000 adults will receive instruction on healthy choices. 4-H and other programs will continue to operate at the same levels as in the past. Will County is down to about 325 4-H members.

**Lake County—Presented by Pam Garland**

Lake County Extension partnered this summer with Lake County Youth Conservation Corporation by sponsoring two college students from June 7 – August 1, 2010 to expose them to the Extension organization and its programs.

June 11, 2010, Lake County Extension Director implemented a team building exercise for the Lake County Extension staff. The team building exercises were: resume writing, interviewing, and job search techniques; which were all part of the day’s activities.
Pam Garland and Jeanne Trampe from Lake County Council; Ed Schukert, Tom Dahlfors from McHenry County Council were selected to serve as Multi-County Unit Council Representatives to assist with the reorganization process. This team met on July 26, 2010 at Dunnhill’s restaurant with Lake County Director and Interim McHenry County Director to decide which office would be the main/satellite office starting July 1, 2011. The decision was to make Lake County the main office and McHenry County the satellite office.

Extension staff participated in North Chicago Community Day. Staff decorated a car with Extension and 4-H banners to market Extension in North Chicago.

August 12, 2010, Extension hosted its 2nd Annual 4-H Golf Classic at the Antioch Golf Club.

August 16, 2010, Lake County Extension Director began serving as the Interim Director for McHenry County.

Lake County Extension has partnered with Waukegan School District 60 – 21st Century Stars’ after school program to establish 4-H clubs in seven local area schools where after school programs will be implemented. Extension received $20,334 to support 4-H youth programs in the Waukegan area.

Plans are underway to host the Lake County 2nd Annual Hall of Fame Awards program October 9, 2010 at 6:00 pm at State Bank of the Lakes in Grayslake, IL. This program recognizes 11 Extension supporters annually. A hall of fame wall was established in the Lake County Extension Auditorium to hang plaques of all nominees.

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held Friday, September 17, 2010, to dedicate the Robin Orr walking path. The path is located at Clearview Elementary School in Waukegan. Jan McBee a recipient of the Illinois Interagency Nutrition Council’s 2010 Community Partnership Award received $1,000 in which she donated to Clearview School to implement the walking path. The Mayor of Waukegan and other dignitaries along with Dr. Robin Orr’s sister Jenny were present at this event.

4-H Youth Development: Sabrina Huley/Thessie Armstrong/Eloise William
The 4-H staff and volunteer leaders were very busy this summer preparing for the Lake County Extension 4-H Small Pets, Dog, Clothing & Textiles/Fashion Revue and fair judging setup.

- The Small Pet Judging event was held on June 24 at the Lake County Fairgrounds for 60 registered 4-H members to show and be judged on knowledge of their cats, poultry, rabbits and small animals such as rats, mice, hamsters, gerbil, etc.
- The dog training program ended in June assisting 30 4-H members in orientation, obedience, showmanship, and dog care. The dog judging event was held on Saturday, June 26th at the Lake County Fairgrounds.
- Clothing & Textiles and Fashion Revue was held on June 28, at the Extension Office. 40 4-H members participated in this event.
July was mostly spent on preparation for our 2010 Lake County fair which was a huge success due to an awesome team of staff, leaders, parents, 4-H members, fairgrounds staff, and friends who made the success possible. Over 300 4-H members exhibited projects and livestock during the fair week of July 27 - August 1.

Extension 4-H staff and Director conducted the annual 4-H leaders and new families’ orientation event September 7th in the Lake County Extension Auditorium. Over 50 leaders and families were in attendance at this event.

Extension staff taught five classes each week during the summer at the Boys and Girls Club in Waukegan averaging over 65 youth per week. Youth were taught in areas of nutrition, crafts and gardening.

**Family Nutrition Program: Dale Kehr/Lee Kouski/Ofelia Delgado**

The Family Nutrition Program continues to find ways to partner with the local community. Building on the senior program that is done in Barrington we have branched out through the support of the Lake County Housing Authority to do programs for seniors in Round Lake and Gurnee starting in October. Currently, the staff is serving in eight schools already by the second week of September with more requests coming in all the time.

This summer we provided nutrition classes to the Teen Reach program in Waukegan and supported an early outreach traveling camp to preschoolers and parents through the Round Lake Park district.

A program was provided to the First Baptist Church of Waukegan that supported low income children to have a special camp experience. Support was also provided to three different outreach camps that the YWCA put on for the disadvantage children of Waukegan.

Our outreach efforts to the pantries have been a huge success and we have provided resources to 26 out of the 60 pantries in Lake County. There is an ongoing effort to reach every pantry and give resources as needed. The long time programs are still being provided for, such as the weekly program at the Waukegan Township, the Food Stamp office and occasional programs to WIC & Right from the Start Program.

**Community and Economic Development: James Reaves/Dale Kehr**

We are continuing with the monthly radio station program. The upcoming programs will feature our Lake County Association for Home and Community Education in October with our Horticulture Educator in November.

We supported the Round Lake Beach Fest as well as many other organizations from the area. The collaboration efforts continue with Illinois Maternal Health and Child Coalition, CACHE (Community Action Child Health Equity); B.E.S.T. (Bringing Everyone’s Strengths Together); The Lake Villa Service Area Forum and other areas as requested.
Horticulture: Sharon Yiesla/Jody Walker

Therapeutic horticulture was very successful in 2010. The Master Gardeners worked with five nursing homes, making three visits to each of them. Activities were garden-themed and indoors. In 2010 we also worked with an assisted living facility (Paradise Park in Fox Lake). An outdoor garden was attempted, but many of the residents were unable to work outside due to excessive heat and their physical limitations. If we work with Paradise Park again in 2011, the program will be retooled to better match the abilities of the participants. Master Gardeners continue to work with individuals with disabilities at North Pointe Resources in Zion. This is a year round activity. During the summer the Master Gardeners worked with the participants in raised gardens and containers.

We have just completed our third year of partnering with Gardening Together and Habitat for Humanity teaching new homeowners to garden. Master Gardeners serve as mentors to the new homeowners throughout the season and consult on spring and fall work days.

29 new Master Gardeners were trained in early 2010. This brings the overall number of Master Gardeners volunteers up to 91 in Lake County. This has turned out to be an enthusiastic and active group. Most of them had easily completed their 60 volunteer hours by late summer. Graduation is planned for early November.

Gardening slide and PowerPoint presentations from our Horticulture Programs have been offered to the public at the Extension office and several other venues. This is done by the horticulturist and Master Gardener volunteers. More Master Gardeners are being trained for the Speakers Bureau and some will be trained to use the digital projector this fall, so that more of the programs may be done in PowerPoint.

The City Produce Project was carried out at several sites in the City of Chicago, but one site was located in Lake County (North Chicago). The project was funded by Monsanto and Extension partnered with the Lake County Health Department and North Shore University’s “Be-Well” program. The purpose of the program was to teach diabetics patients to grow their own vegetables to help improve their diet and help control their diabetes. Earth Boxes were purchased and set up at the North Chicago site of the Lake County Health Department. Participants were able to come to the site and care for their Earth Boxes. Each person was able to grow four summer crops (beans, tomatoes, peppers and Swiss chard). In late summer, fall crops (lettuce, carrots and radishes) were planted.

One-day plant clinics were scheduled with 10 local libraries. These plant clinics were held in summer 2010. Many were well attended. The attendance will be considered as we plan clinics for 2011. Libraries with low attendance may be replaced with libraries that have not yet been served in this way.

The Master Gardener Information Service continues to answer questions for gardeners year round.
**Cook County—Presented by Tanesha Pittman**

Cook County’s administrative team continues to provide support and leadership to our county staff as Extension statewide completes Phase II and enters into Phase III of the re-organization. The following are Cook County program snippets:

**Expanded Food and Nutrition Education (EFNEP)**
EFNEP combats obesity by attacking nutritional concerns among low income populations. In 2009-2010, EFNEP reached 6,669 family members through enrolling 1,666 adult participants.

**Community Health**
Asthma prevalence is high in Chicago, 13% of Head Start children and 16% of Chicago 7th and 8th grade students have been diagnosed with this disease. This past spring, “Just Breathe” was implemented with a group of 8-11 year old children in an after-school program.

**Mathematics Professional Development for Classroom Teachers (S.T.E.M.)**
A series of workshops offered to teachers; “Math to Go” and “Math to Go, the Sequel”. Each workshop offered distinctive programs that addressed the Illinois State standards. Sessions focused on five Illinois State Math objectives; number sense; estimation and probability; algebra; analytical methods, geometry, and probability and data analysis. The content is based on curriculum and focal points developed by the National Council of Teachers of Math, or the Summer Institute Partnership with UIC.

**Survivors of Domestic Violence: ‘Empowering for a New Beginning Conference’**
During the past three years, over 150 practitioners have attended these conferences. Outreach work has benefited over 2,000 girls and women at risk for domestic violence. A total of 40 workshops, keynote presentations, and forum discussions have been presented. An estimated 40 professionals received professional development certificates through three certifying organizations. Four Extension staff took a 40-hour training to become certified domestic violence volunteers.

**Immigration**
**How to Become a Great Citizen for Low English Proficient/Low Literacy Adults**
Over 2,000 face-to-face contacts with students (predominantly Hispanic adults) in the Immigration Program. Approximately 75 uniquely registered students for the “American Government and “How to Become a Great Citizen” class during this program year. 100% of the students completed the course and took the Naturalization Exam, and passed the History, Government and Civics portion.

**P.O.E.T. (Presidents Office of Employment Training)**
University of Illinois Extension staff collaborated with Cook County President’s Office of Employment Training (POET) and Loyola University of Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine on this project. Thirty-five economically disadvantaged minority men and women, ages 18-25, experienced first- hand organic vegetable and herb production, and IPM practices. Seventy-four percent, completed job readiness activities, completed a Post Test, and scored higher on the Post Test vs. Pre-Assessment of Job Readiness knowledge. Green Corp participants trained in environmental literacy, food safety, and job readiness skills due to the efforts of a team of University of Illinois Extension educators.
Monsanto ‘The City Produce Project’
‘The City Produce Project’, a coalition of Illinois farmers, and the University of Illinois Extension have launched a program that targets urban food deserts that lack access to fresh produce. The program is funded by Monsanto and Illinois Corn Marketing Board and provides agencies targeting diabetes and obesity with a regular supply of locally grown fresh vegetables and onsite nutrition education curriculum.

Key components of the program are:
Vegetable production by University of Illinois Extension master gardeners and researchers, and local farmers at six different sites including farms and the Cook County Jail garden; grow box vegetable production at more than 10 additional sites throughout the Chicago area; distribution of tens of thousands of pounds of fresh vegetables throughout the growing season by the Greater Chicago Food Depository; nutrition classroom education conducted by University of Illinois Extension staff in more than a dozen communities.

Du Page County—Presented by Pat Kosmach
DuPage has lost their County Director and a part-time secretary, but are happy to have Sandra Davis as the Interim County Director.

Master Gardeners
As of September 17, 95 active MGs have logged 4,902 hours this year. This is an average of 51.6 hours per MG; 861 hours are on the help line alone. Our PAR projects (Community Garden plots in Downers Grove and Glen Ellyn) were featured in the Chicago Tribune, Daily Herald, and Suburban Life Newspapers. We’re working on awareness of Extension. Our project at the DuPage County Convalescent Center was featured in the Daily Herald. Speakers Bureau has given 55 presentations by MG volunteers so far this year. In July, we began asking for a $100 donation for each presentation. We are also working on cost recovery to bring the Worms in the Classroom program to 3rd graders in our local grade schools. The new MG class will start on January 4 with interns from DuPage, Kane and Kendall counties at the DuPage office.

FNP
Programming continues at six different subsidized Senior Housing sites as well as several Senior Health Fairs. We are also working with food pantries in Wheaton, Wayne, and Woodridge. We have received an inquiry about our services from Loaves and Fishes in Naperville. Programs also continue with the DuPage County Health Dept. Family Self Sufficiency Program as well as Family Shelter Service and Head Start Parents. We are providing Kindergarten and Teen Cooking Schools at the Outreach Community Center in Carol Stream.

4-H and Youth Development
We had 1141 exhibits-605 projects and 536 animals-at this year’s fair. Three SPIN clubs were held over the summer. 13 youth participated in Robotics, 20 in Engineering (both held at the DuPage office), and 33 in the Video Club at the Woodridge Resource Center. The jump rope program was held at the Addison and Glen Ellyn Resource Centers. We had 135 mainly minority youth participate in these programs. Last year, we reached a total of 11,866 youth. Youth were reached through a variety of delivery modes including community club program, community special interest, after-school club,
school special interest, and school short term. There were 576 enrolled adult volunteers. 4-H was also featured in the Chicago Tribune on July 27 and the Daily Herald on September 20.

DuPage leases the fairground from the county board at a minimal price. It expires in 2020, and they anticipate a problem with renewing it or its future availability. Pat is optimistic that Extension can work something out with them.

**Fundraising**

The DuPage County Board has budgeted $65,000 for our office for FY2011. This amount has been steady since FY2007

The MG plant sale made about $1200. All items were donated by MGs and priced under $5. The 4-H Foundation Luncheon raised about $2000. The “Evening in the Garden” and Garden Walk fundraisers were also successful. Attached is a flyer for our next fundraiser to be held October 9.

**Kendall County—Presented by Wayne Mundsinger**

Some changes were made at the county fair, like adding a beer garden, that resulted in people staying longer.

The 2010/2011 4-H school enrichment program will be in additional classrooms this year along with some new courses. Courses include: Six pillars of Character, Cool Cash Adventures and money management, teacher training to run incubation and embryology, Wonderwise science curriculum training for teachers, science day training in impact of carbon dioxide on our environment, and aerospace building and launching rockets.

4-H fall workshops and signup are scheduled for October 11. Scheduled events are Build your Own Lego Robot, Cooking Outdoors, scarecrow decoration, and make your own fishing lures. Our 4-H foundation will give a presentation to parents on the overall 4-H program and has prepared a new hand out to help generate volunteer awareness and method of donation.

Training for childcare providers will be offered with five different classes: Bugs-ideas and fun bug activities including bug identification and bug craft ideas; hands on winter-techniques to teach students to make holiday cards, crafts and gifts; Emotion Coaching—how to think more critically about children’s emotional development; Building a Community of Caring Children—how to bring out behaviors that help create a community where children support each other; and Fitness Fever—physical fitness activities that help children to understand the importance of being physically active.

Our Wellness and Nutrition programs include: Walking Club (including a trip to Starved Rock); Mature Munching (different foods); Taste Testing; and Lunch Lectures (nutrition lessons).

Master Gardeners are finishing up the year after supporting three different community gardens, a twice monthly presence at farmers markets in Yorkville and Oswego. A garden was also maintained at the Extension office. This allows the Master Gardeners to try different techniques in growing. All food produced is donated to the local food pantry. The profit this year at our
plant sale was up 35% over last year. They also sold rain barrels. Kendall County added 19 interns this year to bring our total Master Gardeners and Interns to 38.

The Master Naturalist program added 18 people this year and over 372 community service hours were given between the Forest Preserve and Park District.

It seems the county board will fund the office the same 2% or more. Kendall is growing and now there are both farmers and non-farmers.

**Kane County—Submitted by Dave Klussendorf**

It was a decent but hot summer; wondering about all the upcoming changes. A multi-county council was formed and recommended that Kane be the hub and DuPage and Kendall be satellite offices. Wondering how this new council affects this committee. Many questions, but no real answers.

We’re starting to gear up for new fiscal and calendar years. Finished year in the black just over $900 including two late donations. Black ink didn't stick around long though.

**4-H Youth**

- Teacher training w/Kendall in Aurora /Montgomery/Oswego corridor.
- KC Farm Bureau Legislative Picnic.
- Usual 4-H rap up and gear up.

**FNP**

- A dozen schools starting October.
- Three after school programs.
- Adult groups in Aurora and Elgin, including Elgin Community Crisis center and U46 parent group cooking program.
- WIC in Carpentersville and Elgin. None in Aurora due to relocating of offices.
- Senior group at Salvation Army in St. Charles - nutrition and line dancing.

**Hort**

Kane County lost their Horticulture Educator to the buyout, but organized their volunteers well to carry on until new member comes. As of September 15 almost $3000 sold at Sheriff Inmate Garden- divided among the Sheriff’s program, the 2011 garden start up, and the Northern Illinois Food Bank.