



# CARSON CITY/STOREY COUNTY EXTENSION & 4-H



## 2016 SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Staff

Lindsay Chichester, Extension Educator  
 Jim Barcellos, STEM and 4-H  
 Sandy Wallin, 4-H and Youth Development  
 Leticia Servin, Hispanic Outreach  
 Bianca Galeano, Office Manager  
 Karen Beatty, Office Assistant  
 Sonya Sistare, Wild Fire Project Coordinator  
 Wendy Hanson Mazet - Horticulture

### Also serving Carson City/Storey County

Ed Smith, Natural Resource Specialist  
 Susan Howe, Raion Education Program Director

### After School STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)

#### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant:

##### Mark Twain Elementary

26 visits to school site, 273 youth contacts

##### Empire Elementary

25 visits to school site, 266 youth contacts

##### Bordewich/Bray Elementary

26 visits to school site, 223 youth contacts

### STEM at Boys and Girls Club

Started bringing science enrichment and STEM activities in October 2016:

6 visits to site, 90 youth contacts

### Spring Break Babysitting Certification

- Met 3-5PM Monday-Friday; 10 hours of class
- 7 enrolled students 12-18 years-of-age

### Summer Parks and Rec Science

In partnership with Carson City Parks and Recreation, brought science experiments to City's Summer Kids Kamp Program at Mills Park Pavilion:

- Explorers: 9-10 year-olds, 10 visits, 112 youth contacts
- Mountaineers-11-12 year-olds, 12 visits, 120 youth contacts

### Carson City/Storey County 4-H Clubs

**4 Paws Dog Club** - 2 leaders, 7 youth members, 27 meetings/workshops /fieldtrips

**Arrowhead Livestock** - 6 leaders, 22 youth members, 19 meetings/workshops/field trips, Nevada Jr. Livestock Show (NJLS) and State Livestock Judging Contest

**Bouncing Bunnies Rabbit Club** - 2 leaders, 7 youth members, 12 Meetings/workshops, Rabbit Show

**Carson CloverBuds** - 2 leaders, 7 youth members, 2 meetings, (NEW club)

**Carson Cluckers (poultry club)** - 1 leader, 7 youth members, 12 meetings/workshops

**Carson Hot Shots Shotgun Club** - 3 leaders, 16 youth members, 25 range shoots and shooting skills safety training

**Comstock Explorers (Community Club - Storey County)** - 4 leaders, 18 youth members, 11 educational meeting/workshops/fieldtrips

**Comstock Hot Shots (Shooting Sports - Storey County)** - 6 leaders, 23 youth members, 33 range shoots and shooting skills safety training

**Silver Bricks (robotics club-Storey County)** - 1 leader, 7 youth members. (NEW club)

**Silver Sage Community Club** - 2 leaders, 9 youth members, 15 meetings/workshops

**Storey County Cook Lovers (afterschool club)** - 2 leaders, 10 youth members, 15 educational meetings

**Target Rippers Archery Club** - 1 leader, 9 youth members, 25 range shoots and shooting skills safety training

### 4-H Events and Outreach

- Storey County Parade of Lights
- State 4-H Shooting Sports Match
- State 4-H Camp Advisory Committee
- Rabbit & Cavy Show
- Comstock Hot Shots Qualifier
- 4-H Camps
- Nevada Junior Livestock Show (NJLS)
- Capital City Farm Days
- National Night Out at Mills Park
- Children's Day in the Park
- Arrowhead Livestock Qualifier
- Open House Events
- 4-H Council Fabric and Rummage Sale
- Nevada Outdoor Expo
- Cook Lovers end-of-year family and friends dinner

### Volunteers

**8,087 adult and youth volunteer hours**

**x \$20.98\* per hour = \$169,665.26**

**(estimated value of volunteer time for Carson City and Storey County 4-H and Extension in 2016)**

\*As reported by the Bureau of Labor, Value of Volunteer Time/Index by state (Nevada) in 2015.

# Program Highlights

## Extension Educator Activity

- Teaching and programs based on needs indicated from community partners
- Teaching aligned with skills and expertise: Agriculture and social media
- 2,171 direct contacts at community events, presentations, and meetings
- 140 teaching hours
- Speaker at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Wheat Symposium in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Topic “Social media for scientists: Good management practices for using online networks”
- Chichester has a social media presence as AgriculturalWithDrLindsay (AgWithDrLindsay) in which agriculture and agricultural literacy topics are discussed using her background, expertise, and educational credentials. In 2016, Chichester’s content had 135,875 impressions on WordPress, Facebook, and Twitter, which equated to \$92,638.15 in total potential reader time investment. Blog post readers represented 118 different countries.
- Submitted application to Progressive Agriculture Foundation to host a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day in Carson City in 2017. Carson City will be the first-ever Nevada location to host this event. The mission of the Progressive Agriculture Safety Days is simple – to provide education, training and resources to make life safer and healthier for children and their communities, whether it be on the farm, ranch, or in town.
- Chichester has been involved with a national youth online quality assurance program (Youth Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)) for youth livestock exhibitors. Curriculum has been created for four years (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020) and all curriculum has been blind peer reviewed by University specialists and industry experts. The YQCA will launch in March 2017.
- Chichester is a member of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) as well as the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA), she is on the publicity committee for the Society of Range Management (SRM) Conference which will be held in Reno in January 2018. Chichester is also on the UNR 4-H Evaluation and Accountability Working Group which is working on developing a state-wide evaluation tool for 4-H staff and programs. Additionally, Chichester is a member of the Western Nevada Cattlewomen, is on the Carson City Weed Coalition Board, Carson River Coalition Education Working group, and The Greenhouse Project Board and Action Group Committee. Finally, Chichester is in the Carson City 2017 Leadership class and is working with a group of community partners to plan the 2017 Carson City Fair.
- Additionally, the Carson City/Storey County Office welcomed a new Office Manager, Bianca Galeano in May. Bianca’s Spanish speaking skills are also an asset to the office.

## Hispanic Outreach

- ALITAS (Alliance of Latinas in Teen Action and Solidarity); 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Latina Youth Leadership
  - 32 students, 42 sessions
  - Goal: help Latina teen girls understand importance of higher education.
- META (Making Education the Answer); High School Leadership Group
  - 18 students
  - Goal: Keep Latino students actively involved in school so they can successfully mentor younger students to be good students.
- The Parent Project
  - 45 Parents, 10 sessions
  - Goal: Parents receive tools and training to increase awareness on things (i.e. drugs, gangs, internet) influencing their teenage children. Parents become more involved in children’s lives, making positive changes.
- Summer Health Program
  - 12 youth, 4 hours/week in summer
  - Goal: Provide positive and healthy activity opportunities for youth.
- National Red Day
  - 25 youth, 25 parents; one time event. Mother/Daughter Tea Party providing health information on the heart and other women’s diseases.
  - Goal: Talk about the importance of staying healthy and strong.
- Storyteller
  - 12 Latino parents, 6 sessions
  - Goal: Give parents the tools and resources needed to give their preschoolers a head start in reading.
- Home Visit Program
  - 35 9<sup>th</sup> grade students; 4 visits per school year
  - Goal: Help parents navigate the school system at the beginning of a school year, help them understand the four-year high school plan, help parents find resources in the community. Make sure student is on track to graduate on time and pursue higher education (if applicable).

## Horticulture Expertise in Carson City

In the latter part of 2016, we were able to bring a horticulture expert to the Carson City office two days per month. During that time, Wendy had:

- Over 400 horticulture calls
- 50 horticulture office visits from the community
- Over 250 residents participated in horticulture related educational program offered at the Carson City Extension Office
- **120 volunteer hours from area Master Gardeners helping with the Community Garden and Grow Your Own classes, equating to \$2,517.60 in horticulture volunteer time in 2016!** (Same dollar figures used as above in 4-H volunteer section)

# Program Highlights

## Radon Program Activity

### Carson City:

- Since the inception of the program, more than 1,840 homes in Carson City have been tested. This is 7.8% of the total housing units in the city (using 2014 census data for number of housing units).
- At least 272 Carson City residents received short-term radon test kits in 2016, and at least 166 of the kits have been used, for a usage percentage of 61%.
- Of the homes exceeding the EPA Action Level of 4.0 pCi/l, 85 have undergone mitigation. The percentage of homes completing mitigation over the number of homes that need mitigation (n=620) is 13.7%.
- Also, there were a total of 136 reported real estate tests and 17 Radon-Resistant New Construction homes in Carson City since the program's inception.
- With 39.5% of the tested homes indicating a radon problem (at or above 4.0 pCi/l), radon education is an important community education program in Carson City. The county's highest radon level is 100.5 pCi/l making it the fifth highest county!

### Storey County

- Since the inception of the program more than 53 homes in Storey County have been tested. This is 2.7% of the total housing units in the county (using 2014 census data for number of housing units).
- At least 19 Storey County residents received short-term radon test kits in 2016, and at least six of the kits have been used, for a usage percentage of 31.5%.
- Of the 11 homes in Storey County that have radon levels exceeding the EPA Action Level, none have been reported as mitigated.
- With 31% of the tested homes indicating a radon problem (at or above 4.0 pCi/l), radon education is an important community education program in Storey County.



Nevada Radon Program receives a proclamation from the Mayor and Board of Supervisors as part of National Radon Action Month, January 2016.

## Living With Fire (LWF) Program Activity

### Carson City:

- 438 direct contacts at community events, presentations, and meetings.
- 188 copies of LWF publications distributed.
- 18 events or activities took place as part of Nevada Wildfire Awareness Month:
  - Posters and banners displayed various locations and communities.
  - Articles promoting Wildfire Awareness Month and related activities featured on CarsonNow.org.
  - Message on Bodine's Casino marquee.
  - Message on Casino Fandango marquee; Wildfire awareness messages shared during a Casino Fandango VIP event.
  - Message on Carson Community Center marquee.
  - Message on Carson City Fire Department's digital sign.
  - Digital billboard displayed on US Hwy 50 west of Hwy 395.
  - Message displayed on NDOT's Digital Message Signs on I-395.
  - Message displayed over Main Street.
  - County proclamation issued.
  - Open House at the Bureau of Indian Affairs Western Area office.
  - Door-to-door distribution of community event flyer to Lakeview Community; Lakeview Community Clean-up and Picnic; Lakeview event article feature in Nevada Appeal.
  - Wildfire awareness presentation at the Governor's 2016 Fire Season Briefing.
  - List Country Road Community wildfire preparedness day fuelbreak project.
- Additional promotional activity included radio and television PSA messages and social media.
- Participated in two additional events at the Cooperative Extension office:
  - A luncheon with the Board of Supervisors.
  - A 4-H Open House event.
- As a result of concerns expressed by the Board of Supervisors regarding excessive tree mortality, Cooperative Extension provided links to pertinent publications and assessments, contact information to local experts, and offered to organize a workshop for the Board of Supervisors.
- Living With Fire Program Co-manager organized and conducted a wildland plant identification and Lake Tahoe natural resource issues hike and outdoor school at Spooner Lake for Carson City 4-H participants.

### Storey County:

- 106 direct contacts at a school event, and meetings.
- 4,270 copies of Living With Fire publications provided to the Storey County Fire Protection District, for door-to-door distribution during their defensible space inspections.
- Five events or activities took place as part of Nevada Wildfire Awareness Month, including:
  - Posters and banners displayed various locations and communities.
  - County proclamation issued.
  - Wildfire awareness presentations and Ember House Youth Activity at Hillside Elementary School.
  - Wildfire awareness presentation at the Virginia City Highlands Fire Safe Council meeting.
- Additional promotional activity included radio and television PSA messages and social media.
- Assisted the Storey County Fire Protection District in updating and reprinting two popular publications, which included providing grant funding to assist with the cost: *Fire Adapted Communities – The Next Step in Wildfire Preparedness (Storey County Version)*, and *Pinyon Pine Management Guidelines for Common Pests*.



# Program Highlights

## The Greenhouse Project (TGP) Activity

- 2728 pounds of produce grown
  - 2213 pounds donated to FISH, Circles Initiative, Ron Wood, Salvation Army, Food for Thought, The Bridge Church, Do Drop Inn, and CHS Culinary
  - 515 pounds to 11 Community Supported AG (CSA) subscribers
- Successful 13-week CSA, all produce was grown by TGP (except for some fruit gleaned in the community)
- In partnership with Tom Henderson and the Fruit Barons, we picked several hundred pounds of cherries, plums, apricots, grapes, and apples to distribute in the community
- Six AmeriCorps members successfully completed their terms and earned the Segal AmeriCorps Educational Award; several projects completed by members include the establishment of nutritional documents to distribute to recipients, and improved vermicompost and composting systems
- Continued student involvement including Mr. Mann's Horticulture Science, Plant Science and Greenhouse Management classes, CLS students, Academic Support students, Mrs. Koop's Biology classes
- Strengthened partnership with Carson City School District, specifically Carson High School CTE, and involvement with the Sustainability Action Team
- Continued partnership with Urban Roots to administer the AmeriCorps member program; new partnership with Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation beginning September 2017
- Hosted approximately 600 Freshman Transitions students as part of an exploration of CTE-related careers
- Participation from school groups (Carson Montessori, CCSD), Boys and Girls Club, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Juvenile Probation, GraceWorks, and more
- Community volunteers contributed over 400 hours of service
- Attended several Carson City Farmers' Markets to sell flowers and seedlings, garnering additional donations
- Successfully propagated 75 hanging petunia baskets for Carson City downtown
- Successful fundraisers, including the Concert Under the Stars, Harvest Dinner, Summer CSA, and Plant Sale
- Converted more outside flower beds to vegetable production
- Improved pest management strategies (an ongoing process)
- Utilized donated hydroponic and aquaponic kits to experiment with alternative growing methods
- Note: TGP is included in this summary because Extension maintains a good working partnership with TGP



Jim Barcellos teaching at the Summer Youth Day



Jamie Roice-Gomes and Smokey during Wildfire Awareness Month



New 4-H Club, the Virginia City Silver Bricks had a successful first year with robotics moving past the qualifier, enabling them to compete at the Northern Nevada competition

For more information about Extension and/or 4-H in Carson City or Storey County or any of the programs mentioned, please contact us at 775-887-2252 or visit: <http://www.unce.unr.edu/counties/carson-storey/>

Find us on Facebook at: University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Carson City/Storey County



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