2020 Impact

Educator Laura Sant taught three sessions of Preserve@Home with Extension Educators from Idaho, Oregon, Colorado and Wyoming. Of the 60 students who completed the class, 73% had a grade of 70% or better showing increased knowledge of food preservation methods. A post survey showed that 14% to 50% of respondents were already doing research-based behaviors before the class and 64% to 93% reported learning about the skills during class.

Sant gave a demonstration on Eating the Mediterranean Way and associated health benefits for the Mealtime Inspirations event in two locations and an event evaluation indicated that participants had an increase in knowledge and intention to make healthy lifestyle changes.

The Franklin County Wellness Program saw 34 of 62 county employees make a lifestyle goal to maintain or improve some aspect of their health for a $50 incentive. Two employees resigned and 47% who made goals reached and maintained their goal and attended at least two educational classes.

Welcome to the Real World was taught twice to 56 high school students. Post evaluations showed they learned: 58% writing a check, 21% wants versus needs, 42% opening a bank account, 79% balancing a checkbook register, 81% setting up/using online banking, 81% budget percentages for expense categories, 67% the relationship between education and potential earning, and 52% the time value of saving money.

Educator Bracken Henderson developed an educational training video on pruning/training young ornamental shade trees, in conjunction with a live online broadcast. A how-to bulletin on the topic is now in review.

Henderson has been working to develop an alternative method for homeowners to control earwigs in their landscape. These unique insects are beneficial predators for most of the year but can become problematic. Homeowners looking to control these insects have few options that don’t also damage other beneficial insects like pollinators. Henderson ran trials on insecticide baits for earwig control and results will be published in 2021.

Henderson is also involved in a dairy heifer pasture grazing project with Utah State University and the USDA Forage and Range Laboratory in Logan, Utah and is working with USU colleagues on weed control issues.

4-H in Franklin County

There were 32 leaders and 278 4-H members enrolled in 946 projects in Franklin County, with 588 completed projects. Sant taught or co-taught six projects. She was unable to teach Bread in the Bag due to the pandemic, however, she created a video to be used at home. She also taught or co-taught two afterschool projects and assisted with planning and presenting 4-H activities at the fair. Henderson serves on several 4-H committees and boards and has taken the 4-H giant pumpkin growing contest to Oneida County.

On the Horizon

Sant received training in Mental Health First Aid for adults and youth and is excited to provide classes to teach community members skills to respond to the signs of mental illness and substance use.

Henderson is offering pesticide applicator trainings in-person and online. He will also create a more refined video for pruning/training ornamental shade trees and is considering becoming involved in a mental health for farmers program in Idaho.