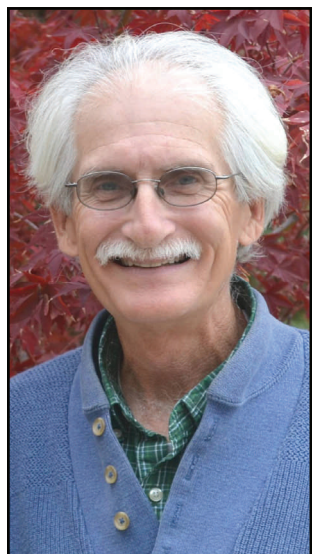


A Message From the County Director



Placer and Nevada Counties' UC Cooperative Extension staff provides research-based educational services to meet the needs of local residents. Our programs in 4-H and youth development, Master Gardeners, Specialty Crops Eat Local Program, nutrition, horticulture and livestock provide education with an emphasis on hands-on learning to "help people help themselves."

The 4-H program had 1,162 members led by 352 adult volunteers who continued to provide non-formal educational and preventative programs aimed at helping youth develop into mature, healthy, capable, and contributing citizens. Over 7,600 elementary and home-school students learned about embryology by hatching chicks using one of the 125 incubators available from our office. This year 4-H clubs completed 11 Revolution of Responsibility grant projects to help their communities.

This year marked the 30th Anniversary of the Master Gardener programs in Placer and Nevada Counties. There are now 220 Master Gardeners that provide over 12,000 hours of volunteer service through workshops, community events, and manning the hot line. The Senior Community Garden completed its sixth year and added a Master Gardener demonstration area.

Nutrition education was taught to over 3,200 pre-school and school-age children through the UC Cal-Fresh Nutrition Education Program. The Nutrition BEST program provided nutrition education and a weekly box of produce from a local farm to 90 Early Head Start families in Lincoln, Loomis, Auburn, and Kings Beach. Nevada County featured a youth at risk grant that provided nutrition and gardening education to 180 afterschool children.

The Horticulture and Small Farms program provided 165 hours of training to 655 farmers and ranchers. The Eat Local Placer and Nevada project promotes healthy eating by buying more locally grown produce and has reached over 47,000 consumer, family, and senior audiences. The Livestock and Natural Resources conducted a California Meat Summit to discuss current efforts and next steps in dealing with the lack of USDA inspected processing for producers in California.

A summary of these and many other contributions are contained in this document. Their diverse and extensive efforts were supported by over \$700,000 in grant funding. I hope you will find our efforts relevant and meaningful in their ability to maintain and improve the quality of life enjoyed here in Placer and Nevada Counties.

Roger Ingram
County Director

