Lending a Hand: Cooperative Extension Service 1981 Annual Report

Cooperative Extension Service
South Dakota State University

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lending a hand
EXTENSION: A LOOK FROM THE INSIDE

Your South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service is the non-formal educational arm of our Land Grant University, South Dakota State University. Extension provides educational assistance to farmers, ranchers, homemakers, youth, and community leaders—a function which has continued in South Dakota through about four generations. Extension has built-in characteristics which assure its response to both local needs and those of all levels of government and public decision makers.

MAJOR THRUSTS BEGIN IN '81

Advice from County Extension Boards and the State Extension Advisory Board has resulted in three major program thrusts designed to address specific problems facing citizens of our state.

Cooperative Extension Service Agents and Specialists alike have received in-service training specifically designed for the conduct of these activities which begin this year.

The first major educational thrust is in the area of farm family resource management which includes a complete record-keeping system upon which sound management decisions can be made. Other features, through the aid of remote computer terminals and micro-computers, include forward planning for the management of farm enterprises and business analysis. The overall aim is not only to lend a hand in allowing individual rural families to operate more efficiently and profitably, but also to aid South Dakotans to become more competitive nationally—which, ultimately, will improve the quality of life for the rural families of this state.

A second major thrust deals with South Dakota's number-one resource, food. The importance of the production, processing, and marketing of this extremely valuable asset goes without saying, but the use of our food products is similarly vital. This educational program includes human nutrition, buying/selling, food preparation, and a strong emphasis on the expanded purchase and consumption of food products which originate here in our own state.

A third thrust is youth-oriented. Lay readers and board members tell us they favor equipping 4-H youth with skills to effectively investigate career opportunities and plan their training toward their career selections. An equal emphasis is the importance of learning to manage personal resources—particularly money.

LENDING A HAND

South Dakota's Extension agents, specialists, and program assistants lend a hand to the people through three areas of program emphasis: agriculture, natural resources, and rural development (ANR & RD), family living and nutrition (FL & N), and 4-H and youth (4-H & Y).

In 1980, the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service and its 199 professional and 37 para-professional employees devoted the following amounts of time to these areas:

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<th>Area</th>
<th>Professionals</th>
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<tr>
<td>ANR &amp; RD</td>
<td>101 yrs</td>
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<td>4-H &amp; Y</td>
<td>56 yrs</td>
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<td>FL &amp; N</td>
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Non-formal, off-campus, public education in these program areas is mandated by the South Dakota State Legislature. By this approach, our legislature has assured that these educational and informational services will be available to virtually every citizen of the state.

Some of Extension's offerings in the Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development area include the production of livestock and crops, conservation of natural resources, marketing of farm products, and efficient management of farm enterprises. Rural development offerings are designed to aid not only the general citizenry, but also the elected and appointed decision-makers of our state. The overall rural development goal is to strengthen the agricultural, business, and industrial base which sustains community commerce.

Extension works with families to provide information on basic human nutrition, managing family resources, and meeting the various needs of the family—all through the Family Living and Nutrition area.

The focus in 4-H and Youth Development is on promotion and development of vocational, avocational, and leadership skills for South Dakota young persons and is aimed toward preparing them for their role in agriculture, business, government, and community life.
LENDING A HAND...

U.S. agriculture and rural life in these early 1980’s represent an increasingly complicated and sometimes confusing scene. And yet there also are some surprising constants in all this.

One constant is the amount average Americans spend on food and fiber—variously estimated at 14-20 percent of their disposable dollars. This has remained on a fairly even keel since the late 1960’s, and that’s no mean accomplishment. Someone somewhere is doing something right to account for this nearly unbelievable stability in an era of double-digit inflation.

It’s all the more surprising and difficult to explain in light of the way supplies, equipment, and taxes have soared for our rural Americans who produce these necessities of life.

For example, the amount of natural gas required to produce a ton of that essential fertilizer, anhydrous ammonia, cost under $11 in the late 1960’s. Today, it’s not only more than $69—over six times more—but it’s bound to soar to even higher levels as the price of natural gas is further deregulated.

How can this be? The answer is ever-increasing productivity and efficiency. One estimate is that each American farm and ranch worker now produces enough food and fiber for himself and 64 others, 45 at home and 19 abroad. That’s a total increase of some 18 persons over the number ten years ago, and, if my arithmetic hasn’t failed me, that’s also an increase of 38 percent in one short decade.

In a sentence, rural Americans have used their considerable talents to keep food and fiber costs in check despite enormous obstacles.

It’s a pleasure for the Cooperative Extension Service and its brother agency, the Agricultural Experiment Station, to lend a hand to such people by supplying a substantial share of the research, education, and technical assistance which has played an important role in this overall accomplishment.

Rural Americans have given us our number-one industry—with assets now totalling about a trillion dollars. They’ve become this Nation’s number-one employer—with over 15 million workers in agriculture and allied industries. And they continue to be our number-one exporter—with more than $40 billion in sales last year.

Let’s all lend a hand to keep them number one.

Dr. Hollis Hail, Director
S.D. Cooperative Extension Service
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OTHERS LEND EXTENSION A HAND...

The South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service is in business to help the people, but sometimes the roles are reversed, and people help Extension in a special way.

Late in the fall of 1980, Extension Director Hollis Hall sought the help of a variety of South Dakota decision-makers to guide and shape the long-ranged goals of Extension. He reports that help was both freely given and highly useful.

Working closely with the State Extension Advisory Board, Hall interviewed a representative sampling of state legislators, the Board of Regents and its office staff, State Bureau of Finance and Management staff and administrators, and University administrators. He posed four questions:

* What do you think the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service should emphasize in agriculture, home economics, 4-H, and community development?
* To which groups of the public should these services be provided?
* What types of information is most helpful to you in making budget decisions?
* How detailed should that information be?

Hall found that most believed such services should be available to all people of South Dakota, with a major effort toward rural families—especially young families and youth.

The group told Hall they favored a strong agricultural program with emphasis on food and fiber. Regarding livestock production, crop production, marketing alternatives, conservation tillage, and other important areas, farm management technique and assistance was the type of service most often recommended.

Nutrition for all age groups was the most mentioned service in the home economics area, followed closely by family resource management, family growth and development, and skills in foods, clothing, home management, and family living.

The group frequently commented that the 4-H and Youth program is highly effective and that it should retain a heavy rural emphasis. Most agreed that future program directions should include skills, careers, and leadership development.

Hall was told that ag-related programs in community development are held in great importance, and specific examples included: water resource development—including rural water and irrigation, and public affairs—including education on voter issues.

The signals were mixed when it came to the kinds of feedback the group deemed most useful. Legislators, for example, found personal telephone calls from their constituents of most value. Bureau of Finance personnel, on the other hand, most wanted statistical and cost-benefit information. Raw, detailed statistics were classed as least useful by all except Bureau of Finance personnel.

Another fact surfaced by the group was that the legal role and responsibility of the Extension Service, as mandated by the State Legislature, is widely misunderstood and misinterpreted.

As a result of the input provided by the group, Hall formed the Extension Accountability Committee to address the points raised.

The Committee first checked to see that the direction provided by the group of decision-makers squared with that provided by County and State Advisory Board members and found the two sets of input nearly identical.

The Committee then recommended a systematic process of program evaluation to provide information for decision-makers on three specific programs—farm and home management, human nutrition, and youth career planning—which will be emphasized widely across the state to make the results valid and reliable.

Extension Specialists, working with task forces which include county personnel, now are developing support materials and content for the three programs, and all county personnel will receive extensive in-service training on them in October. Programs are designed to begin November 1, and, with added components, run for a two-year period.
COPING WITH STRESS: STAYING IN CONTROL

By Deanna V. Boone,
4-H/youth and family living editor

With a nickname like "Skip" and with a philosophy of life that embraces family and the potential of each new day, you wouldn't think stress would have the hope of a resting place with her.

But Dianna "Skip" Meisenheimer has stress, too...like when she checked her sister's mobile home and hours later it was gutted by fire, like when she taught 46 kids archery, like when divorce hit within the family, like when blight affects her customer's plants and they seek help at her commercial greenhouse, like when she took the test for her pilot's license.

How a person copes with stress is the key to how happy that person is and whether or not stress has long term detrimental effects for that person.

The world seems to be moving faster and faster with each new commitment and each growing pain. Fortunately, people realize it and are aware of the need to build a quality life free of unnecessary tensions and stress.

Because of that daily need to live a life free of back pains and nervous stomachs, Codington County Extension Home Economist June James offered a lesson on stress. It was that one lesson that changed Skip's life.

"Before learning about stress, I cried a lot," she said. "I thought everything that happened to me was somehow my fault; I felt responsible. Now, after June opened my eyes, I know there are some things I can't control. I must accept that."

She learned, too, not to get involved in everyone's problems. However, "if someone wants to talk about a problem or a worry, I will be happy to listen and treat it confidentially. My theory is: that person should feel better for having talked it out but I shouldn't feel any worse for listening!"

Skip learned not to absorb more than caring. Some things must go in one ear and out the other. Some problems exist about which she can do nothing. So why worry and build stress? She would do a friend no good if she became a tense, affected sympathizer. She can only offer her trust and listen with an open mind. She knows she can learn from another person's stress but it doesn't have to have an overwhelming affect on her.

People make their own stress by the importance they attach to the event or situation.

"We think about the things we have to do and little things build up. We often take a molehill and build it into a mountain," she added. "Maybe it's because we think we're so little and insignificant that we want to make everything we do bigger. It's like kids who try to impress adults."

If her two married children have arguments, they don't bring them home to their mother. She is not involved. "I don't—and I shouldn't—live my children's lives. I will stand beside them and guide them when I can, but I will not let their problems become stress to me. Because they thought enough of their spouses to get married, they will work their little problems out."

When her sister's mobile home burned, Skip had not yet taken the stress lesson. "And believe me, that was stressful," she recalled with wide open eyes. "I felt guilt and remorse and found it difficult to face my
How a person copes with stress is the key to how happy that person is and whether or not stress has long-term detrimental effects or that person.

Sister. Yet, I knew it had not been my fault. I saved all I could but I still felt somehow responsible.

Even out of that stress and loss, she learned a lesson that she passed on to her family. "Material things are only material things. It's the people who can't be replaced. As long as we have family, we'll survive whatever befalls us."

Skip believes that stress affects her more than her husband, Al. "Men aren't as emotional. I wish he could have taken the lesson. We talked about what I learned—as I do with all Extension lessons—but he could have understood more fully first-hand.

As a young bride, Skip was a member of the Townettes Extension homemakers club. As the two children occupied more of her time, she dropped out but "always felt like I was missing something." She made frequent trips to the Extension literature rack and felt welcome to call if she had a specific question. "Extension was always there waiting for me and now I'm a member of the Townettes again and wouldn't give it up. If we don't use Extension, we'll lose it."

"What would we do without Extension? How many people would get necessary information if they had to seek it out themselves from different sources? That could create stress in itself.

Once in a while, Al will ask, "Why don't you live by what you say about stress?" It's true that sometimes the stress of daily life can get the best of us all. She answers, "You don't think I try?" With practice, she takes each day as it comes and is constantly learning to cope with things that could be potentially stressful.

"I don't fly off the handle and think it's all my fault like I once did," she admitted. "I no longer ask, 'Why does all this happen to me'?"

Yes, the world is full of people and situations and encounters and problems that could cause far more harm to the body than heartburn. But life is short. Why waste it worrying about what is past or what is yet to come?

Skip seems to have the right perspective. She sees the cheery side of life and starts each day by opening the door literally saying, "Good morning, World!"
CALLS FOR HELP FOLLOW FROST

By Jerry Leslie,
SDSU Ag News Editor

On Saturday, May 9, 1981, a Canadian cold front pushed into South Dakota. Along with it came record nighttime low temperatures of 19 at Huron, 20 at Aberdeen and 25 at Sioux Falls. Freezing temperatures struck again Sunday night.
The two killing frosts damaged crops across the eastern two-thirds of South Dakota.
The aftershock began at 8 a.m. Sunday for Norman Telkamp at Sioux Falls, Minnehaha County Extension Agent, and other agents around the state. That’s when the telephone started to ring.
Telkamp’s office answered 64 telephone calls on Monday and 24 on Tuesday.
In between calls, Telkamp appeared on three television stations and was interviewed by two radio stations and the Sioux Falls Argus-Leader for the Associated Press.
Telkamp was the busiest county agent after the frost, but other agents also were the focal points of telephone calls from farmers. And in other counties the calls started coming in Sunday morning at home, also.
Across the state, the agents and Extension specialists kept track of their frost related phone calls and contacts. They logged 3,152 telephone calls and contacts over that week.
Farmers wanted to know what they should do with their frozen alfalfa. How could they assess the damage to their wheat? Why did spring wheat look worse after the frost than winter wheat. Should they plow up their frozen grain and re-seed. Some city residents called in about their potatoes, apples and rhubarb or their ash and hackberry trees.
Not all agents were in a media center like Sioux Falls. But those who had radio stations cut radio tapes. Those with local newspaper either did an interview with or an article for their local newspaper.

In the Plant Science Department of South Dakota State University, the crop specialists likewise began getting calls at home on Sunday. When the university opened at 8 a.m. on Monday, the telephone was ringing with questions from farmers and county agents.
Don Reid, Extension agronomist, wanted to be sure that the answers going out were the right ones.
So, he called a meeting of all Extension and research personnel in the Plant Science Department for 9 a.m. In that meeting the professors discussed the stages of crop growth, degrees of frost, degrees of damage, and what should or shouldn’t be done.
One of the conclusions was that farmers shouldn’t be in a hurry to plow up their wheat. Some wheat would send up new tillers.
Here are some other conclusions reached:
Most spring grain should recover because it hadn’t grown a central stem yet.
Some winter wheat would be damaged and it could be cut for forage at leisure, once the damage was ascertained.
It was not too late for alternative crops to be planted.
Alfalfa need not be clipped to come back. The frost acted as an environmental clipping, and rain, if it came, would bring back the alfalfa. But if there was enough growth it should be clipped for hay.
The meeting ended about 10:30 a.m.
The Plant Science Department had received about 65 phone calls at that point.
The Extension plant scientists divided up a list of news media and farmers who had called and started telephoning those who still needed answers.
Jerry Leslie, SDSU Ag news editor, got on the telephone to the Associated Press in Sioux Falls. The AP already had a story from the morning Argus-Leader, but took a short piece for its broadcast wire. Leslie wrote the findings of the plant science meeting.
and an interview with Reid into a two-page story for the state's newspapers. The piece was in the mail the same day to daily newspapers and in the next mailing to county agents for weekly newspapers and agent columns.

Mark Eclov, SDSU radio and television specialist, who also was at the meeting, set out to cover the radio stations. He interviewed Reid and Dean Martin, Extension horticulturist, and telephoned every key station in the state with three two-minute news segments. Many stations had the items on the air by noon. His next Yard and Garden show and Farm Forum show were devoted to the frost.

Clair Stymiest, Extensions agronomist stationed at Rapid City, did interviews with four radio stations and one television station in his area.

He also remembers talking to 50 or 100 farmers from the Kennebec-Winner-Reliance area. The wheat was in the boot stage and their question was whether the wheat would produce viable kernels, Stymiest recalls. For the most part in that area the head on the main stem of the wheat plant was dead. What crop the farmers did get was from tillers that grew after the frost. This damage was confined to a relatively small area west of the Missouri River, Stymiest recalls. The frost wasn't as serious from Presho west.

Later a twilight tour was held at winter wheat variety trials at Kennebec and 54 farmers observed which varieties came back the best. Stymiest took pictures and made posters of the frost damage to use as educational material.

Maurice Horton, head of the Plant Science Department, said, reflecting on Extension's response to the frost, "I think we need to be prepared to respond to situations like that. This was just an example of the way that we can respond and help."
One of the frustrations of public service is that efforts don't always produce results which can be measured in dollars and cents. That isn't the case with the work of Extension Economist Art Sogn, however. The in-depth training he provided for grain farmers sometimes pays off in reported $7,000-to-$12,000 jumps in annual income.

The training takes the form of 15 intensive hours of lecturing and work aimed at understanding the futures market for grains. This year, Sogn plans to train about 200 farmers from 14 of South Dakota's counties.

Augmenting the in-depth workshop is a session on marketing alternatives that Sogn has presented to more than 3,000 farmers over the years. Another aid is his program, "Midwest Market Analysis", presented over the South Dakota Public Television Network in cooperation with his colleague, Gene Murra, an Extension economist specializing in livestock marketing.

Sogn explained that formerly the training session he gave was only 1 ½ hours in length, and that it often raised more questions than it answered. At the time, a 15-hour in-depth session was thought to be longer than most farmers would have either the time of patience to attend.

"However, you just don't learn the marketing system for grain in 1 ½ hours," said the economist. "And when Extension agents began to receive requests for further information, we decided to give the longer session a try."

That first pilot session was presented at Sisseton in 1979. Now, not only is all of Sogn's time booked for this year, but also he is receiving training requests for next year. He estimates he'll conduct the session at four sites this year, and that participants will come from 14 counties. The shorter marketing alternatives session will be presented at as many as 21 sites.

The PTV marketing analysis program airs 52 weeks each year—once on Friday evening and again at mid-day Saturday.

What makes the training so special? And why does it result in extra income for farmers almost without exception?

Sogn says the intricacies of marketing traditionally have been left in the hands of the grain buyers and handlers, not the farmers. "Farmers can make good use of information like the fact that marketing and delivery don't necessarily have to occur simultaneously," he said. "And when they understand basis, they find they can be paid to store their own grain in some instances."

Sogn says that understanding grain futures is important for the grain farmers for many reasons. One is to determine what to plant in cases where there are choices to be made. Another is whether to sell the grain or store it after harvest.

"It helps to be able to figure out when to sell—before the crop is planted, while it is growing, at harvest, or after a period of storage," he continued. "Knowing grain futures also aids the farmer to know whether local prices are excessively low or high in relation to other markets and to decide whether to feed a crop to livestock or sell it as grain."

Having good information to make decisions like these puts money into the bank for grain farmers, he indicated. Sogn produced an evaluation form filled out by participants at one session. All 27 farmers stated they believed they could profit financially from the information given, and all similarly said they would recommend a workshop like this to other persons.

Surprisingly, several farmers have commented that they want more time for the training despite it's already 15 hours in length.

Comments like, "I would be willing to pay $5 per
telephone call every two weeks for a 5 to 10 minute report regarding trend, planting intentions, market conditions, etc., underscored to Sogn that despite the training, farmers weren't able to get enough pertinent information to make their marketing decisions.

The result was “Midwest Market Analysis” which now is the most-watched program on South Dakota Public Television, attracting about 20,000 viewers each week, according to a recent Nielson survey.

The workbook Sogn developed for the training has become a national model, according to Extension Program Leader Lloyd Hanson. Sogn received a small grant from the National Association of Wheat Growers to develop the marketing alternatives handbook, which later served as a format for a wheat marketing film made by that organization.

Sogn now receives inquiries from Canada, Alaska, Hawaii, and other faraway places as a result of the exposure the South Dakota grain marketing training has received.

“When it comes to marketing, you just can’t beat good information,” Sogn summarized, “and we try to provide our farmers the methods and skills for getting it and putting it to use.”
CLOWNING: A TOOL FOR 4-H TEACHING

By Jan Laughlin, Journalism Intern, SDSU

Add a little fun and novelty to a job and it becomes a game. Beadle County leaders and 4-H'ers have been active in teaching nutrition to all ages from preschoolers to senior citizens—not by traditional books and lectures, but by clown skits, puppet shows, games, and recipes.

It all began in September, 1979. Three adult leaders from Beadle County, LaVonne Walter, Vivian Rearick, and Dolores Moody, were selected to attend a national conference on nutrition in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Campbell's Soup Company, where they learned innovative methods in teaching nutrition to the public.

One of these teaching methods was clowning. Other states had done this for 4-H projects and entertainment and also had used it as a teaching tool.

The state and county extension offices showed interest in using clowns and puppets as teaching methods, so Beadle County set up and coordinated a program under the direction of Nancy Charlson, Beadle County home economist.

Since then, there has been a lot of "clowning around" in Beadle County. Of course, the fun has been constructive.

Four junior leaders were interested in clowning and attended state junior leader internship workshops at Watertown and Sioux Falls. The junior leaders who attended workshops were Laura Walter, Tammy Wood, Dawn Boetel, and Tammy Kahre. Other clown participants were Brian Crabb and Rhonda Jungemann. LaVonne Walter taught about makeup and costumes.

A workshop held in Huron featured professional clowns like Cecil Polak of Tulare, SD, who taught about facial expressions, pantomimes, skits, and dance routines.

With the aid of mop wigs, white paint, and gaudy, baggy clothes, the 4-H'ers were transformed into clowns. The four girls—Walter, Wood, Boetel and Kahre—became better known as Polka Dot, Pinky, Twinkie, and Tom Bumb, respectively.

During 1979-1980, the junior-leader clowns performed clown skits, puppet shows, and games on nutrition to the Huron elementary schools, 4-H club meetings, the Huron Mall, senior citizen's centers and day camps. They reached an estimated audience of more than 540 people, according to Charlson.

Rearick urged the members of her Broadland Buddies 4-H Club to take on clowning as its project. The club promoted nutrition for the Huron nursing homes, the Huron Business and Professional Women's Club, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, and the Huron Mall.

A total of 15 4-H junior leaders participated in clowning in Beadle County, Walter says.

So, what does a white face and a red nose have to do with nutrition? And how, exactly, can a "talking sock" promote nutritious food?

The main thrust of the nutrition education cam-
Campaign has been to teach people about the importance of the four food groups and encourage people to eat nutritious snacks. It may sound like a ho-hum diet, but the 4-H'ers made it fun for those they entertained.

For example, when the four junior leaders went to the elementary schools, they taught nutrition through clown skits and food games and then distributed nutritious snacks like chocolate-covered popcorn. To push the idea home, the clowns gave the children recipes of nutritious snacks to give to their mothers.

Walter, one of the junior leader clowns, explains that a sad-faced clown often symbolized poor nutrition, while a happy-faced clown stood for good nutrition.

To promote infant nutrition, the Broadland Buddies used Rearick's younger daughter as an infant clown for a 4-H promotion at the Huron Mall. Rearick recalled that it had worked very effectively.

The Broadland Buddies also had promotion booths at the mall where they distributed nutritious fruit drinks and snacks like dips and crackers. Clowns and puppets seem to be a favorite of all ages, so the 4-H'ers taught nutrition to senior citizens through skits and games as well. They also taught good exercise routines.

All the "clowning around" has paid off, the leaders and 4-H'ers conclude. They have promoted nutrition to various groups and organizations in the county and in other areas, have drawn good crowds at their demonstrations, and have received many appreciative letters from the public.

All this "clowning around" has helped the 4-H'ers as well as the public. Through their efforts, the 4-H'ers, themselves, have learned about nutrition, Charlson says. They have also developed their self-confidence in performing in front of others. "It seems like it's much easier to hide behind the face of a clown," she explains.

"It also has brought a lot of 4-H'ers out of their shyness," Walter says.

All fun and games will continue in Beadle County 4-H as long as there are 4-H'ers and as long as there is interest, the leaders conclude. And, so far, it's a winning team and a winning game.
Fact: Heating a home during a typically severe South Dakota winter costs money—lots of money!

Fact: Home heating costs, combined with other inflated consumer necessities, place a tremendous financial strain on most family budgets.

Fact: Heating with wood can take the edge off that strain—if you know what you’re doing.

Extension Housing Specialist Mary Ann Sward and Extension Forester Larry Helwig recognized that South Dakotans needed a helping hand. Heating with wood was an all but forgotten technology, thanks to years of petroleum fuel so cheap and plentiful that the bother of chopping wood and hauling ashes was hardly justified.

Before the people of South Dakota could be helped, two problems had to be overcome: first, travel funds were short, making it nearly impossible for the specialists to provide much information and training personally; second, the situation was complicated by the huge demand for wood heating information spread over such a large area of the state.

In response to these factors and in response to a suggestion for updated teaching materials on wood heating, the two Extension specialists decided to develop and follow an approach which would help South Dakota families make sound decisions in their search for alternative means of heating their homes.

Included in the approach were two teaching packets: one was for the County Extension staff to help them conduct lessons in their counties and also to provide them with accessible information for answering clientele questions on wood as a fuel for home heating; the other was developed for Extension Homemaker project leaders. Both contained a teaching outline, publicity packet, warm-up ideas, activities, hints for adapting to different audiences, resource materials, and evaluation forms.

Using both the Ag and Home Ec county staff as teachers and approaching the subject from an interdisciplinary outlook made this program innovative. Because it was a new approach, the need for a formal evaluation was evident. County staff, project leaders and participants all had a chance to determine if the program met their needs.

All three groups completed a post test after the program concluded. They also received a second posttest in the mail about a year after they had attended the program.

In looking at the results of the 770 evaluations, the specialists found that the topic had been both timely and of high interest in the state. They also learned a new method for reaching new kinds of audiences which can be applied to other program areas. Of prime interest to the consumers was the desire to save money and to learn about stoves and fireplaces, firewood, and safety of the wood burning alternative. Cooperative Extension Service workers reported that about 5,000 South Dakota participated in the training.
LOW-INCOME FAMILIES BENEFIT FROM EFNEP

By Deanna V. Boone, 4-H/youth and family living editor

To Ermadelle Erickson, the Expanded Foods and Nutrition Program (EFNEP) is more than just a job. The people she meets are a part of her life—not just from 8 to 5, but from the time she plants her garden, to the time she found work for an unemployed mother, to the time she conducts a food demonstration in homes and malls.

Erickson is more than a Program Assistant (PA). She is a friend.

Her job description calls for working with people of low incomes in Minnehaha County. They need to know how to spend their food dollars to the best advantage nutritionally. But, it’s what Erickson does beyond what the job description prescribes that makes her and all of the other South Dakota PAs a necessary part of the Cooperative Extension Service’s helping hand.

Caring is the secret to the EFNEP program’s success. It’s people helping people learn the things that make up ordinary day-to-day life.

Among South Dakota’s recent low-income immigrants are Cambodians, Vietnamese, Laotians, Spanish, and Iraqis. Erickson and other PAs are stationed in the larger urban areas of the state where these persons live and work. And they have a need which she fills.

It is as though Erickson’s clientele have an empty basket when it comes to American traditions, food, health, and safety. During her friendly, informative visits, she puts a heartfelt of help into the basket time after time.

When people need help with food problems, she is there. “I like to call it human relations” but it’s more than that.

Sometimes the help is a reminder to the children of the family that they must wash their hands before working with food. Sometimes it is a box of her home-grown summer squash, onions, green peppers, and seasonings which she teached them to prepare and then leaves it for the next meal. Sometimes it is a little quiz: “How many servings of fruit and vegetables should you have each day?”

You can’t help but get goosebumps when you hear a tiny Laotian boy answer her, “Four”. And, by the time she leaves, they also know that the rice that stays on the stovetop all day counts for part of the bread and cereal group that’s also needed in a daily diet.

Erickson has known one Laotian family for about 2½ years. In looking about the Laotian home you can see the effect she has had on their lives—their transition from a native homeland to an adopted home in America.

Next to a poster displaying the Laotian alphabet for younger children’s benefit is a framed needlework...
project which points out “Cookin’ lasts. Kissin’
don’t.” Even though the grammar needs work, the
message is clear.

As the squash boils on the stove, the kitchen is full
of Laotian eyes and ears. Erickson teaches everyone
from Grandma to her 2½ year-old granddaughter.
She shows them what to do with the freshly picked
squash and urges them to try the vegetables, even if
they are unfamiliar. A tasting party is built around
green peppers just as easily as it could be built around
wine and cheese. The result of the work is
measurable: Diets are improved. Babies are born
healthy. Teeth stay firm longer. Young minds are
opened.

Obviously, Erickson cannot wish to know all of the
languages of people she meets. That doesn’t hinder
her. Full of patience after raising seven of her own
children, she notes, “The secret is s-l-o-w. If they
don’t understand my words, I use my hands and then
say it over and over again. Neither of us understands
everything, and sometimes we both end up with blank
looks on our faces.”

In visiting one of the Iraqi families, she discovered
that the mother of the household was having trouble
nursing her one-month-old baby. The conversation,
which could have been labored and unclear, crossed
the language lines with the help of the homemaker’s
four-year-old son who translated from one tongue to
another without even a noticeable difficulty. The
words and understanding passed his lips as though
everyone could do it as easily.

To an outsider looking in, it may not appear as
though much attention is being exchanged over a cup
of tea. How wrong! The ladies chat about foods that
the baby could eat from the table in a few months,
about nutritional ways to work around the husband’s
distaste for the water, about what can be done with
the fruits of the garden, about food preservation.

It’s true that more enters into the relationship than
just education. There’s friendship—a kind face in a
new land, a person to whom you can turn in time of
questions, someone who can appreciate the life they
can now only describe, one who is willing to bridge a
gap. For Erickson, there is no gap; she is the bridge.
That bridge isn’t ready to be drawn yet. They still
have needs. Some want to learn about hot dogs and
hamburgers, mashed potatoes, and roast beef. They
still show visible eagerness for each of her visits and
disappointment when she leaves.

“I feel fortunate to have had the privilege of work­
ing with these persons. Because of them, I have
grown within myself,” she admits.

Now, when she hears, “You come food?” she knows
she has done her job. The rest of us know she has
given her heart and soul to the people who can benefit
from her services.
LENDING A HAND...
IN DROUGHT RECOVERY

By Jerry Leslie,
SDSU Ag News Editor

The Cooperative Extension Service is a partner in an operation which found profitable enterprises for about 60 farmers in five counties of central South Dakota.

The income is from sheep, and the operation is the Central South Dakota Sheep Producers Inc.

The CSDSP makes it easier for a farmer to get started in the sheep business, stay in it, and expand.

CSDSP was founded by a county Extension agent and a sheepman in 1977 after the drought of 1976 forced cattle selldown and farmers wanted to get back in business. The organization was the brainchild of then Hyde County Agent Wilford Paynter, Highmore. Dennis Ruzicka, a sheep grower from Highmore, and Paynter teamed up to get the organization off the ground.

Ruzicka explained how the first man was helped.

"In 1976 a neighbor was down and out. He said he'd have to do something. Bill (Paynter) talked about sheep. Bill thought sheep were the way to go. It was at the time of year when sheep would be hard to find.

"Bill told him to come out and talk to me. I had sheep all my life. I made a few phone calls, found some sheep. The same fellow and I went to Bell Fourche to look at them. We bought 90 ewes, some with lambs, some not. We hauled them back in a truck and a trailer and got him started."

"Today he's running 600 to 700 ewes and is doing well. His wife was a nurse. She quit to help him with his sheep. Sheep is a family operation."

When demand for more sheep had accumulated, Ruzicka, Paynter, and John Misterik, Sr. of Harold went to Montana, Wyoming, and Western South Dakota on buying trips. They would bring back 800 or 1,000 ewes at a time and sell them at cost to the new producers in any number, from 10 to 300. A producer couldn't have gone to a big rancher in the west and expected him to bring in a whole herd to cut out just a few head. But the association can buy the rancher's entire production at a lower price, Paynter said.

Since the association formally organized in July, 1977, it has put 55 of 60 persons in the sheep business.

Ruzicka was chairman for four years, and Paynter was executive secretary for three years.

The two founders are no longer in office, but the CSDSP is in good hands. President is Bruce Hoffman of Rockham and Wayne Nesby, county agent for Hand County, is executive secretary. The CSDSP is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to assisting new and established sheep producers in procuring sheep of high quality to generate a profit.

The board of directors is made up of a county agent from each five counties plus two directors from each county for a total of 15 directors.

Money to purchase western breeding sheep—$100,000—came from the Rural Development funds administered by the State Department of Agriculture under a use agreement with the Farmers Home Administration.

The money was put in certificates of deposit in the bank and used for collateral to make the purchase of sheep until time of delivery to the new sheep farmer.

"The first year you could show $105 profit per animal unit on sheep when you were losing money on cattle."
Advantage to a new producer of buying through CSDSP "is that he can buy any number he wants, he gets sheep that are quality controlled, represented honestly and sold at the lowest price possible, and he gets the assistance of the 'big brother program'," according to Paynter.

Under the "big brother" program, new sheep producers are not left alone with 300 new ewes and wondering what to do with them. He can call up the directors of CSDSP at any time of the day and get answers on lambing problems, nutrition, or general management.

Also the Cooperative Extension Service put on educational programs with Extension sheep specialists from SDSU. The sheep specialists started with the basis of sheep production—breeding, nutrition, management, environment—and there was followup with producer panels.

Because of the increasing number of sheep in the region, it was difficult for producers to find rams to service their ewes. "Most of the fellows that bought these western ewes wanted to cross them with Suffolk..." Paynter said.

So, the association formed a Ram Test Station at SDSU's Central Research Station at Highmore. SDSU furnished the ground and a shed, and the Ram Test Station put up the fence and feeders. The fence was put up with a grant from the South Dakota Department of Agriculture.

The Ram Test Station was started in 1978 and had about 60 to 70 rams on test.

The sheep are looked after by an employee of SDSU's central substation at Highmore paid by the sheep producers.

The cost of testing the rams is prorated to individuals who have them on test.

The S.D. Ram Test Station is a nonprofit corporation. Gary Hauck of Highmore is president of the corporation.

A ram and ewe sale is put on each third Friday of July by the Ram Test Station and the CSDSP. In 1981 the sale was held at Ruzicka's farm. About 90 rams and 1,600 head of yearling ewes were sold at the consignment sale.

The most recent project of the CSDSP is the forming of a wool market, the Central Dakota Wool Warehouse, Inc. in March, 1981. Intentions were to acquire a wool baler, bale wool and sell directly to the mill. The wool pool was Ruzicka's idea. The producers will accumulate wool and haul it out in semi-trailer trucks.

The Wool Warehouse is a profit-making corporation with seven directors. It secured a $40,000 loan from the Department of Agriculture which guaranteed it at 80 per cent and sold shares at $50 each so small operations could join, too.

The warehouse takes wool on consignment and sells it to the mill. "We didn't feel we were getting enough money from out wool. Individuals with 12 to 15 bags couldn't haul it out. We started accumulating it and hauling it out in semis," Ruzicka said.

Why would farmers want to convert to sheep? Paynter was asked. He replied that "there hasn't been a year in the last 15 that sheep haven't been in the black." A farmer can also make a quicker comeback with sheep than with cattle.

"The first year you could show $105 profit per animal unit on sheep when you were losing money on cattle," Paynter said. The cost of five ewes is cheaper than that of a cow. "Say I'm either going into the cattle business or sheep business. I could probably invest $400 to $450 in an animal unit of sheep where it might cost me $500 to $600 for one animal unit of cattle," Paynter said.

"The main advantage of sheep over cattle is twc, crops, and we have a pretty strong wool market at this time, especially fine wool. And sheep are good roughage converters. They're more profitable than cattle at this time," Paynter said.

Ruzicka reported success for the new sheep producers. "The new members made money, all stayed in and got bigger."

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LITTLE WHITE CAMP IS FUN AND FREE

By Kathy J. Nyquist, SDSU Journalism Intern

Enthusiasm and excitement abound for two days each summer on the banks of the Little White River located on the Rosebud Indian Reservation.

One weekend in June each year, 4-H'ers from throughout Mellette County gather for a night of camping out under the stars for two days of fun and fellowship.

The camp is organized by the Mellette County Extension Service, but the whole county gets involved with the planning and preparations for the event.

"This year the mayor of White River gave city workers time off so that they could set up the large tent for us. I thought that was really nice," Rita Tucker, county Extension program assistant, said. The city also loaned the tent to the Extension Service for the campout.

This year 4-H clubs from throughout the county pooled their money and bought another large tent for the campers to use. Any individuals not housed in the two large tents slept in smaller tents borrowed from 4-H families or "roughed-it" by sleeping under the stars (or in the case of this year, the clouds.)

But even Mother Nature's rains couldn't dampen the 4-H spirit present at the camp as 27 active 4-H'ers enjoyed Friday night's campfire with skits and a sing-along, handicrafts and Saturday's nature hike.

The busy 4-H'ers also found time to go swimming in the river, play frisbee and football, catch a few snakes and enjoy the delicious meals which the 4-H volunteer leaders prepared.

The time schedule at the camp is unstructured.

"Get a bunch of kids together and they'll find something to do," said Dale Mallory, Mellette County Extension agent.

"We try to make it a learning experience but not like a school," Mallory added. "If we did that, the kids wouldn't come.

"It's kind of a reward for being in 4-H and doing all the work that goes with it. It gives them something to look forward to," he said.

Both Mallory and Tucker stressed that the camp is a fun activity for the 4-H'ers. "It's probably the 'funnest' thing for the whole 4-H year," said Tucker.

The campers agree with their leaders. "Camp's great!" according to Shannon Thomas of Murdo. "It's fun!" was the enthusiastic reply of Tanya Whirlwind Soldier from Grass Mountain.

The cheerful spirit of the campers spreads to en-
compass the entire camp. Both Indians and whites alike greet each other and newcomers with big smiles and a warm welcome.

According to Mallory, the leaders and the program assistant make the camp a success. "You have to have people who like kids," Mallory said. "I guess the key to everything is getting the parents to work with the kids." he added.

The program assistant is vital to the camp "because she has to organize everything," according to Mallory. "There is a lot of work involved in making this camp a success." he added.

Tucker added that the kids help too. "They're pretty good kids," she said. Having the camp close to home has been an asset, according to the leaders. If a child gets homesick Friday night, he can go home and come back Saturday morning without missing any activities.

Keeping the camp close has another advantage; it keeps the cost down to a minimum. The camp is free to 4-H'ers. All they are asked to bring is their clothes, soap and a towel. "And from the looks of some of 'em, they didn't even bring that," Mallory joked. The campers also needs to be covered by 4-H insurance.

Supplies for the camp are donated by local businessmen and parents of the 4-H'ers. Additional equipment is borrowed from various individuals or groups as needed. The manpower needed to set up the camp is all volunteer help from parents and leaders.

Mallory said that they get a lot of cooperation from the landowners. Bud and Donna Faye Stromer, owners of the ranch, allow the campers to frolic on their land and to collect wood for the campfire. In return, the campers invite the Stromers to the potluck supper on Friday night.

Dave Steffens, District Conservationist, helped the local conservation office arrange a nature hike for the kids on Saturday.

The hike started out with splashes as the 4-H'ers waded across the Little White River. Things got even more exciting when the campers found some snakes to chase and catch. Wrede showed them how to identify some plants and animal tracks during the hike.

The camp is supervised by 4-H club leaders from throughout the county. This year Lorena Krogman, Cowpokes 4-H club; Sena Lauritsen, Woodchucks 4-H club; Donna Bouman, Rascals 4-H club; and Jeanne Steffen, Rough Riders 4-H club helped keep the camp running smoothly. Extension personnel at the camp were Mallory, Tucker, and Judith Till, the Extension office secretary. Mallory was out of town Friday so Gary Ericksen, Jones County Extension agent, filled in for him.

No one could remember how long ago camp was started, but Tucker and Mallory agreed that the late Robert Trenary had started the camp while he was County Agent in White River.

The camp has been averaging 30 campers yearly since its origin, with the exception of a couple years when it was not held following Trenary's death.

Sena Lauritsen offered this explanation for the camp's success, "It gives kids from both ends of the county the chance to get to know each other. And it is a time of emotional growth, too."

Mallory said that in addition to the 4-H camp, "we are thinking of having the leaders come down for a weekend some year. It's so nice down here; I'm sure they would enjoy it."

Already, one 4-H'er is making plans to attend the camp next year. "I couldn't come last year and this year I just wanted to see what it was like. But next year I'm definitely going to come out again!" camper Shannon Thomas said.
4-H SWINE PROJECT HAS NEW TWIST

By Kathy Nyquist, 
SDSU Journalism Intern

Brent Anderson of Aurora learned a lot from his 4-H swine project this year.
Anderson was involved in a new aspect of the project which was tried in Brookings, Lake, and Miner counties.

This pilot project was proposed by L.J. Kortan, Extension Swine Specialist, with the thought of programming greater depth into the 4-H market swine project.

The areas of emphasis included daily rate of gain, evaluation of cutability potential, and a written test covering management and production recommendations and achievement.

By placing emphasis in these most important areas and establishing specific requirements, those participating and completing the project would have an opportunity for greater depth in their project work, according to Kortan.

"One of the major purposes of the program is to teach kids more about the economics of the swine project," according to Rich Howard, South Dakota State 4-H Specialist.

"Our prime intent was to emphasize management, economics, and knowledge of the pork industry and still make it fun and educational for kids, because we've often been accused in 4-H work of having too much competition and show ring," he added.

Anderson agrees with the educational aspect of the project. "I really learned a lot from the project because I had to study all the 4-H swine manuals," he said. "It was worth the effort."

The project was open to all 4-H members. However, the major award was limited to members 14 years of age and older.

Members were allowed to enter up to four pigs in the project. From these four, each member could exhibit one animal at Achievement Days.

The hogs selected for show were evaluated for carcass quality by a committee made up of members of the South Dakota Pork Council. The pigs were also scored on their rate of gain and live ribbon placing given at Achievement Days.

Members in the project then took a written test based on information taken from South Dakota 4-H Swine literature.

Each member received points in the four
areas—carcass value, ribbon placing, rate of gain, and the written test. The top overall 4-H member from all these counties plus the top member from each county was awarded an all-expense-paid trip to the 1981 National Barrow Show in Austin, Minnesota.

Kortan explained that they chose the trip so even the award itself would be a learning experience.

All three County Agents involved in the program agree that the project has potential.

David Blanchard, Miner County Agent, says, "It gives the kids more of an opportunity to really learn what the project is doing for them rather than just earning a ribbon."

He added, "It will help them to learn that pigs are going to make them some money. I'm sure they'll make some mistakes the first few times, but after a couple of years in this project, they'll get pretty sharp. And, it may even help the parents, too."

Steve Sutera, Brookings County Agent, says that he sees this program as another example of the South Dakota Extension Service lending a helping hand. "This project ties 4-H in with a commodity group—the Pork Producers—in our state. I also think that the 4-H leaders have worked well with the 4-H'ers to help promote the project and to assist the 4-H'ers in learning more about the project."

Sutera added that participation in Brookings County was good. "The kids who were in it this year are still interested. I'd like to see it go into more projects since it encourages more than just exhibiting."

"Our goal, or our thinking, is that we can have something like this someday at the State Fair. It's a long way down the road, but it's a possibility," he said.

In Lake County, Eugene Larson, County Agent, said that the program has been "generally well accepted."

"The project helps kids to know the dollars and cents of their project," he said. "The reason we started the program was to get more practicality and education into 4-H livestock projects, and I think this achieves some of those goals."
QUALITY RURAL WATER: A "PIPE DREAM" NO MORE

By Larry K. Tennyson,
SDSU Ag Information Specialist

Time was when an adequate supply of sanitary water was just a pipe dream for many rural South Dakotans. The choices were to use whatever water was available for human and animal consumption—without regard for quality, or pay the expense of having water trucked many miles and poured into the backyard cistern.

For thousands of farm families and other rural residents, that "pipe dream" came true. They enjoy huge quantities of healthful water delivered by one of the rural water systems serving the state.

Extension Program Leader Lloyd Hanson says rural water systems developed in much the same way that rural electrification systems did years before—and that Extension lent a hand in each.

"Things were bad for many of our Extension clientele until the early 1970's when rural water system development really got into high gear in this state," he said. "One of our early publications on the subject noted that nearly 40 percent of all water samples submitted to the State Health Lab in Pierre for coliform bacteria testing was found unsafe for human consumption.

"In 1972, for instance, almost 12 percent of the private water supply samples tested for nitrate nitrogen were found to contain enough to cause so-called 'blue babies'," he continued. "And all this was at a time when 255,000 or about 38 percent of all South Dakotans were served by trucked-in water or private wells."

Hanson said that money for building rural water systems became available as early as 1961 from the Farmers Home Administration. Probably the first sizable project was the Rapid Valley System which lies east of Rapid City on Highway 40. Soon after, the Butte-Meade Sanitary Water District was built in the Newell area.

All during the 1960's, however, only about nine systems were operating.

The Cooperative Extension Service became totally involved in rural water system development in the early 1970's—the first big project being the Lincoln County Rural Water District funded in 1971. Since, says Hanson, there hasn't been a single major water project of this type without some involvement of local Extension agents and specialists from the state staff at Brookings. "Agents like Vane Miller, Larry Tidemann, Del Moore, Don Boone, Herb Lippert, Bob Sampson, Gene Larson, and RC&D Agent Jim Likness—to name a few—were involved really at the ground-floor level," he explained.

What typically happened was this:

A few of the local people who were unsatisfied with the water supply would approach the County Agent with the problem. The Agent then would help the people survey the local backing for a water project, and, if this was sufficient, he'd launch a series of educational meetings to generate increased understanding and enthusiasm. After the legal procedures were explained and a steering committee formed, the Agent would put the local group in touch with an agency which would help with funding. The steering committee would engage an engineering firm to draw up the plans, specifications, and cost estimates, loan applica
tions would be filed, and, more often than not, a brand-new water system would result.

"That's an over-simplification, to be sure," Hanson said, "but it gives a general idea of the role the local Agent would play in getting a project like this off the ground."

An array of publications and fact sheets also were researched, written, and published to further spread vital information among interested local people. Jobs like this were handled by Extension Specialists Charles Ullery and his predecessor Faye Kerr, and they also did lots of consulting with both the local Agents and project organizers.

Hanson frankly admits to being "kind of proud" of the helping hand Extension has given during the 10 years which followed the Lincoln project, but "we certainly don't deserve all that much credit.

"Without some far-thinking local leaders, certain technological developments like PVC pipe, and the availability of low-cost loans, we'd still be without good water much the same as before," he said.

Today, about 30 systems are operating, and 20 more are "in the hopper," according to Hanson. "We've all come a long way, don't you think?"
SKILLS IN DEMAND ON STANDING ROCK

By Deanna V. Boone,
4-H/youth and family living editor

The Standing Rock Indian Reservation offers a different life than what most of us know.
It's a land of sand cherries, wild turnips and onions, grapes, blueberries, deer, antelope and pheasants. It has towns as small as 30 families. The Federal government sends personnel with questions and lots of forms to fill out.

But, when you get right down to it, the Reservation is similar to any other place people call home.
Each has young families, each has more established families, each as a need for change, each reaches out.

On the Standing Rock Reservation, the people are reaching out—and someone is reaching back to them.
The people want new skills and new ways of looking at things and Marlys Jundt is the friend who fills those needs. Being Indian or white makes no difference.

Jundt, the Extension Home Economist for the past 12 years, said, "They accepted me without a stereotype and I did the same with them. They are used to government persons coming in, asking a lot of questions, giving advice, and they seem to respect me and the Extension program because of it."

People have said there's a difference between white time and Indian time, she noted. "We have run on the theory that if the time is set at 10 a.m., we start at 10 even if just one or two people are there. It doesn't take long and everyone knows that. Indians are no different that anyone else; if they know a program won't start on time, why show up and just fiddle the minutes away?"

With those basics understood, Jundt conducted skill-orientated workshops for teens and adults, men and women: furniture reupholstery and refinishing, drapery-making, landscaping with local plants and trees, clothing construction and insect control.

"These people are not afraid to tackle things," she said. "They work well with their hands and, once they get started, they really work."

At the reupholstery workshop, husband and wife teams came. Some had worn upholstery with frames that needed much repair. "We started at 9 a.m. and worked until midnight. They came back the next day and were completely finished in 2½ days. If the work is something they want to do, they really pitch in and do it."

At the wood refinishing workshop, 10 people worked on seven projects and were done in two days. Normally, it would be a five-day workshop, the Westmar College graduate said. "They don't come to socialize and drink coffee; they come to work and learn." The kids came, too. If one starts to fuss and needs attention, anyone who is free at the time tends to the child."
Children aged 8 to 12 are welcome to attend the summer Food and Fun programs. Weekly they learn about nutrition and how to prepare foods that are part of the basic four food plan using government commodities. In looking at the success of the program, she counted up to 32 children at the Kenel programs. “That’s nearly every child in Kenel—more than the mind can comprehend.” Wakpala has the same 15 to 17 children attend weekly and “that’s something I thought would never happen.”

Very few families have not come into contact with Extension in the last few years, she said. “We reach about 350 youth every summer—that’s 85 percent of those out here.”

Those children who grow up learning through Extension’s programs soon become adults.

“We’re reaching the young homemakers now because, when I started, they were the kids who came to the short-term 4-H projects where they learned about cooking and sewing. Now they are the young mothers and some are even young grandmothers.”

Jundt seemed to wisely see into the future when they would need skills that their mothers could not teach them.

Men feel welcome to attend her lessons. “Even in clothing workshops, the men will drop in to see how things are going. I’ve been hoping that that means younger families are developing a family bond that’s been missing in some older couples.”

The lessons are informal and open to everyone. People walk in and out of meetings at all the time. “I had to work to get used to that. It has nothing to do with whether or not it’s a good meeting and it doesn’t mean they don’t enjoy what’s being taught. They just need to move around and be free to follow the path their attention span dictates.”

How does she do it? How does she enter a different culture and leave a mark?

“I come from a small Minnesota farm and not a lot of money,” she explained. “I’ve learned to be resourceful. The things I do in clothing and upholstery workshops may not be THE way to do it, according to some standards. But, we find a way to make it work and get an acceptable, durable product.”

She added, “American Indians and whites alike would be quick to sense it if I were to think their furniture or clothing is junk. We work with what we have and we go from that point.”

Basic skills—as opposed to leisure skills—become the mainstay on the reservation. Jundt teaches basic nutrition rather that food processor or microwave use, beginning sewing rather than men’s tailored jackets, money management instead of stocks and bonds. That’s what they tell her they want, and that’s what they get. The home economist is there to serve.

“People know what they can do. If they think they can do a project, I think they can do it.”

Jundt teaches skills. “I want what I offer to be of use to them and I don’t concern myself with ‘What if they move next month and leave these drapes behind?’ or ‘They may not take good care of this sofa so why should we fix it right?’ My job is to teach, and I teach.”

Many people today are trying to cope with leisure time. On the reservation, that isn’t a concern. “They don’t have leisure time; they worry about where they will get their money to survive. But that isn’t a problem common only to the Indian race; that has to do with income level.”

Connie Yearsley of McLaughlin is the mother of five children and is a three-year Extension homemaker. She has an appetite that can’t be satisfied when it comes to Extension programs.

She learned to do Envirotex on pictures which is similar to decoupage and now has added to her family’s income with her hobby. Her husband, Gene, gets in the action by cutting and burning boards and the whole family enjoys the art.

It was she who requested a lesson on denims. “Jeans are all my five kids wear,” she said. “They’re expensive and I wanted to learn how to make them.”

Jundt taught her and other seamstresses how to make both jeans and jackets for their kids. “Just knowing I could sew denims made me look at myself differently. I like doing things in my own home that make our life better. I’ve had fun learning and I thought I’d never learn anything,” she said. That’s what Extension is all about—people lending a hand.

And that’s not all the homemakers learned through Marlys and Extension. There’s recycling clothes, home industry ideas, gardening, making T-shirts, and canning... and how to follow a recipe.

Kathy Roberts, now a homemaker and mother in Little Eagle, learned to follow a recipe in 4-H and then taught her mother who said, “After the kids are grown, they have to learn from other people other than me.”

Her mother had taught Kathy to cook without measuring: a pinch of salt, a dab of that or a little bit of something else. Passing traditional recipes on without exact measurements isn’t easy and sometimes can’t be done.

Indian frybread was one of the homespun recipes that the young 4-H’er translated into measurements. Now she’s joined the ranks of the good cooks on the reservation.

“Marlys is an information center,” Yearsley stressed. “If she didn’t know the answer, she would find out and let us know. Just knowing she is there to ask questions of is important to me.”

But Jundt has resigned. Her 12-year Extension career is ended and, for the time being, she will be the home economics teacher at Glennon, six miles east of Mobridge.

What will they do without her? Extension is for everybody—and that means on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, too.

Yearsley summed it up. “I want to tell someone that we have more to learn. We need Extension.”
**Sources of Funding**

Funding for Cooperative Extension services in your state primarily come from three sources: county, state, and federal appropriations.

**County Funds Support...**
- 1) the salaries of county office secretaries and summer work-study students;
- 2) travel expenses for County Agents and Extension Home Economists;
- 3) county office and educational supplies;
- 4) county office operations such as rent, telephone, and equipment;
- 5) part of the salaries of Extension Agents.

**State Funds Support...**
- 1) salaries of Specialists, County Agents, Extension Home Economists, and county summer student assistants;
- 2) state and area office secretaries and summer work-study students;
- 3) travel costs for state and area staff;
- 4) state and area office operations including rent, supplies, equipment, and telephone;
- 5) publications and other training material including radio and television programs.

**Federal Funds Support...**
- 1) the same services as state funds, plus:
- 2) salaries and travel expenses of program assistants (i.e., para-professionals), and
- 3) postage.

The sources and amounts of funding in 1981 for the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service is as follows:

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* Does not include $1,200,000 spent locally by counties in support of County Extension program.

Among the program areas, the following percentages of total budget were spent:

- **ANR & RD** 52.7%
- **FL & N** 21.6%
- **4-H & Y** 25.7%

Of these amounts, personnel salaries and benefits totaled 85.4%, travel totaled 5.8%, and supplies and equipment totaled 8.8%.

**Busy People**

County Extension Agents and Home Economists throughout South Dakota wear many hats, and their talents and fields of knowledge are as wide-ranged as the needs for service among their clients.

It may not be generally known, but everyone who works in Extension accounts for their time—all of it. These reports enable one to see the exact amounts of time each person spends working in a given area of service.

While the amounts of effort vary from one county to another as the demands for service vary, statewide averages indicate what the "typical" Agent or Home Economist does for the people and what portion of the working year is spent in the various areas of service.
RESEARCH: THE FOUNDATION OF EXTENSION SERVICES

Land Grant Universities have three basic functions: research, extension, and teaching. The research of the Agricultural Experiment Station is the base for the Extension, or non-formal educational assistance, provided to the people by the Cooperative Extension Service. Extension has as its mission the dissemination of unbiased, research-proven information to the people through methods which avoid requiring citizens to personally travel to research sites on campus or the various experiment stations across the state.

Extension Specialists and Agents also search out research information from other states and further develop and adapt it for use by the people of South Dakota.

DECENTRALIZATION: A KEY STAFFING PATTERN

It is not by accident or circumstance that the majority of key Extension personnel are located in the field and not on campus of the University. Extension services are made handy to all citizens of the state through county and reservation offices. There, County Agents and Extension Home Economists provide day-to-day information and a helping hand to area citizens as well as conduct workshops, tours, and other types of meetings within the county. Specialists, usually located on campus, are a corps of Extension workers whose job is to be in close contact with researchers and quickly disseminate that information to the field staff through area meetings and various in-service educational means on an area or multi-county level.

PARTNERS: COUNTY, STATE, AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS

When the original Smith-Lever Act established the Extension Service on the federal level in 1914, it also laid the groundwork for the present partnership between county, state, and federal governments. Funding for Extension comes from these three levels of government, through County Commissioners, the State Legislature, and Congress. This partnership is unique in that it not only assures the stability of the Cooperative Extension Service, but also its programming direction toward county, state, and national needs and concerns.

CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT: A FACT, NOT A PROMISE

In South Dakota, there are 21,000 citizens who form a corps of volunteers which work hand-in-hand with the professional staff of 137 County Agents and Home Economists, 68 Specialists, and 37 para-professionals. Volunteers work to extend the information or conduct educational activities throughout the counties of the state. Volunteers give their time and resource unselfishly and continue to be an important factor in the success of the Cooperative Extension Service. These volunteers serve as 4-H leaders, a ‘citizen officer’, and volunteer teachers as they lend a hand in their community.

Citizens Provide Direction

Far-sighted State Legislators established County Extension Boards and the State Extension Advisory Board during the formative years of the Cooperative Extension Service. Their composition and functions remain today much as the Legislature originally envisioned them.

The County Extension Boards are appointed by the County Commissioners in each of the counties where the Cooperative Extension Service is in operation. The County Board includes from five to seven members, including one County Commissioner. Functions include the selection of County Extension Agents, development of a county Extension budget, and the planning and evaluation of county Extension program activities.

Such high-level citizen involvement assures that county Extension programs are those which respond to the needs of citizens in that particular county. It further assures that programming will vary from county to county as those needs are expressed and met.

The State Extension Advisory Board is made up of 25 members. Of these, 24 are elected by County Extension Board members at district meetings. One member is appointed by the Director of Extension The State Advisory Board meets annually to review current educational activities in Extension and to develop long-range Extension educational program thrusts. The State Board also is involved in determining program priorities and establishing the justification for any requests for program expansion. The Board further advises the Extension Administration on fiscal, personnel and programming policies as they affect the future direction of the Extension Service.

Together, the Board members represent a network of some 425 citizens which meet real needs of people Extension seeks to serve—the people of South Dakota.