

# EXTENSION Today

## IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY



All areas of Extension, Ag, FCS and 4-H, work together to bring informative programs and activities to the citizens of Cumberland County. One such example would be the Annual Goat Field Day. Just this past year, it was expanded to include a 4-H judging event and Skillathon where youth participants from Cumberland and surrounding counties competed to demonstrate their livestock knowledge. A system of parent volunteers along with coach, Wade Flowers, was instrumental in developing the event. This year's event was made possible partially by an Ag Achiever's Grant from the KY 4-H Foundation. *Greg Tompkins, Extension Agent for Ag & Natural Resources, is pictured at right at the event which is held at the Ag-Expo Building at Veterans Park.*



*Libby Long of the Co-Workers club and Bonnie Holley of Krafty Kritters, along with her granddaughter Hannah, took their turn at the Homemaker's booth during the Bluegrass Festival. The booth was successful in recruiting new members and fundraising with the cookbooks.*

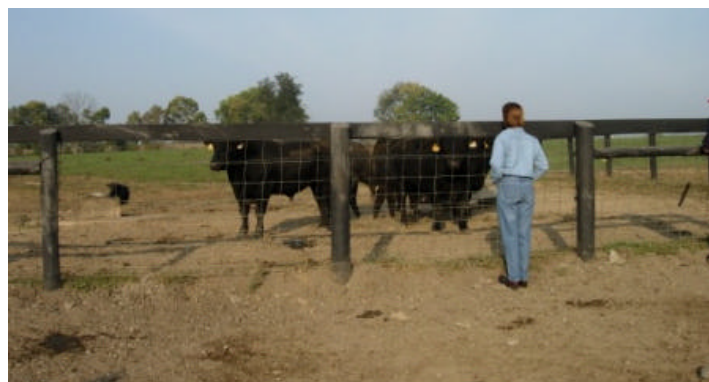


New FCS Agent Debbie Messenger hit the door running for Cumberland County Homemakers. One of her first duties was being involved with the Homemaker Membership Drive. The county clubs set up a booth at the annual Bluegrass Festival to recruit new members and also sell cookbooks. The booth was successful in recruiting seven new members.

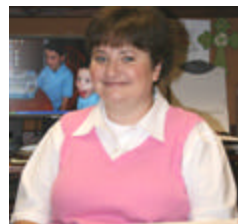


Summer just isn't complete to a number of current and former Cumberland County 4-Hers, as well as alumni, until they make the trek to Jabez for camp. In 2008, 76 campers, teens and adults attended camp. Along with camp, 4-H offers a variety of activities and programs for youth of all ages in which to participate throughout the year.

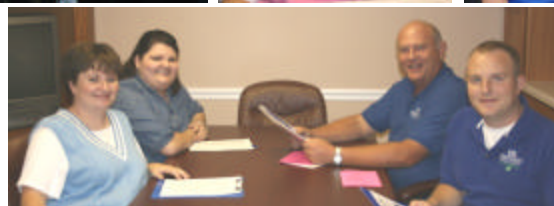
Beef producers have learned to use EPDs in addition to visual inspection to select the best breeding stock for their individual needs. Educational sessions for local participants in the Bull Cost Share Programs have included small group meetings, on farm visits and field day presentations. The Extension Office uses radio, newspaper and direct mail to market the cost share programs to all local producers. *Belinda McCoy looks over her options in selecting a sound breeding replacement during a recent field day.*



**Here to Serve You:** L to R: Staff Assistant Jeanne Claywell retired September 30<sup>th</sup> after 30 years of service to county clientele. Debbie Messenger, new Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences, Karen Henson and Dianne Hayward 4-H Program Assistants for 21<sup>st</sup> Century after school programs.



*Pictured at Morning Staff Conference at right are: Debbie Messenger, Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences, Misty Dubre, Staff Assistant, Greg Tompkins Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Elijah Wilson, Agent for 4-H Youth Development.*



The Extension Office is utilized by Cumberland County farmers who always find up to date information. Free soil testing was recently offered to all citizens to determine their need for fertilizers intended for field crops, forages, and lawn and garden applications. This was in response to increased fertilizer costs that forced farmers to take a closer look at the way they manage their crop production budgets. Farmers also have access to UK's Agriculture specialists who are available to make farm visits to assist in managing in their farm enterprises.



*Far left, a Cumberland County farmer takes a soil sample from his field for analysis from the University of Kentucky's Soil Testing Lab. At right, UK Specialist, Dr. Kahn Smigell visits a local vineyard owner to offer suggestions for improved grape production.*



4-H offers so many various programs and activities for Cumberland County youth, there is bound to be something for everyone. One such activity is the week-long residency of Missoula's Children Theater in which traveling tour directors hold auditions with interested students on Monday and by Friday deliver an awesome performance. This year brought Rumpelstiltskin. 4-H works closely with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Programs and FRYSC for the event.



*Extension relies on volunteers in all areas, Ag, FCS and 4-H, s. Pictured here are Becky Cary and Druscilla Booher helping with the refreshment at the Bloodmobile drive.*

Along with active Homemaker Clubs, informative programs, and volunteer events, the FCS department of Extension has a very active Quilt Guild. Pictured at right are members Laura McLaughlin and Wanda Graham at the annual Quilt Show. The Guild raffles tickets for a Christmas quilt they constructed. All of the proceeds are in turn donated back to the community in various ways.



### The Cumberland County Cooperative Extension Service

*We deliver information, education, solutions.*

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