

EXTENSION Today

IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

In Franklin County we're growing ideas that make a difference in your life, your family, and your community. We have a dedicated staff of trained professionals delivering educational programs in agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, 4-H/youth development, and community and economic development. The Franklin County Cooperative Extension Office is your connection to UK and the world.

You'll see some key numbers in this report. But the numbers don't show you the people or the impact of our work. So the rest of this report shows the faces behind some of the numbers.

Agriculture & Natural Resources *Keenan Bishop*

The latest agricultural census is due to be updated but as of five years ago agriculture generates 12.1 million dollars for our local economy. Crops contribute 7.36 million, and livestock 4.78 million. The farm population of around 689 farms is unique in that 60% work off the farm and 44% are part-time farmers who spend 200 days or more in off-farm employment. The average farmer here is a 57 year old white male farming 119 acres with farm revenue of \$17,000. Only about 11% are female. Crop land is the predominant feature covering over 58% of farms. This includes hayfields which most often get grazed through out the summer and fall as well. Pastures compose about 15%, while one quarter is in woods which may or may not be grazed.

Many improvements have been made to the farmscape due to government programs (NRCS State Cost share, EQIP, WHIP, Phase I, etc). These cost-sharing opportunities have allowed farmers and landowners to make short and long term improvements such as diversification into vegetables, fruits, horses, goats and sheep; cattle handling, feeding, watering and breeding; soil fertility; fencing; pasture species, woodland to name a partial list.



Cattlemen's Education Tour to Northern California

Examples of Agricultural Programs include Soil Testing, Hay Sampling, Ration Balancing, Plant and insect identification, Winter Schools, Farm-City Banquet, Farm-City Field Day, Annie's Project, Master Cattlemen Program, Advanced Master Cattlemen Program, Master Grazer Program, Heifer Sale, Cattlemen's Association, Agricultural Development Council (Phase I), Horse College, Equipment & tool rental and a multitude of topical workshops. The Agriculture Extension Programs provide educational information and educational services to all citizens, both rural and urban.

Family and Consumer Sciences
Tamera Thomas

The Family and Consumer Sciences program conducted and co-sponsored programs focusing on family resource management, health and wellness, children's nutrition and literacy.

Stroke Prevention

The FCS program spearheaded a partnership with the American Heart Association, HEEL and Kentucky State University's Land Grant Program to sponsor a "Power to End Stroke" awareness program during the month of March 2007 at Kentucky State University. 150 people attended the program that UK nursing faculty and students conducted hypertension screenings for 135 students. Featured from left to right are: Mr. Ron Alsup, State AHA Alliance Director, Dr. Harold Benson, KSU Land Grant program, Dr. Mary Evan Sias, KSU President, Tamera Thomas, FCS Agent, Dr. Adewale Troutman, Director of the Metro Louisville Health Department, and Mr. Troy Body, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Minority Empowerment



Leap into Action In-Service

33 preschool teachers from area schools earned 5 hours of level 1 child care training credits for participating in the "LEAP into Action" training workshop. The workshop was supported by a \$3,000 grant awarded by the UK HEEL program. The purpose of the training was to introduce teachers to the LEAP (Literacy, Eating, and Activity, for Preschoolers) curriculum. Each school represented

received teaching materials valued at \$200.00. Specialists from the University of Kentucky, Bluegrass Head Start, Kentucky State University and agents from the Franklin Co. office covered a variety of topics.

Franklin County Quilt Guild

The Franklin County Quilt Guild donated 70 quilts to visually impaired children; Franklin County Police Department and the Cabinet for Families and Children serving Anderson and Franklin counties. In addition, the Quilt Guild provided 65 holiday stockings filled with toiletries for senior citizens.

Financial Literacy

Financial literacy is a top priority for women with emphasis on teaching participants how to set financial priorities by developing a spending plan to manage expenses and using credit wisely. The Bluegrass Alliance for Women partnered with Extension to teach basic budgeting to over 80 individuals. 90% percent of workshop participants indicated that they were going to review their financial status, prepare and maintain a budget, set financial goals and identify ways to save money while improving long-term financial planning.

Family Resource Management

28 limited resource families were served by the KSU Family Development Management (FDM) program. These families included 74 adults and 49 youth under the age of 18. Each family received education in the areas of nutrition, meal planning and family resource management.

Franklin County Homemakers

There are 15 Homemaker clubs representing 289 members in Franklin County. Members have made financial contributions to ovarian cancer research, Indian Summer Camp, and sponsored the annual Holiday Store. In addition, the organization awarded a \$1200 college scholarship to graduating senior Jessica Meade.

Special Interests

Several special interest classes were offered including antiques and interior design. Also an "Evening with Chef Cliff" cooking series which featured demonstrations and sampling of appetizers, entrees and desserts.

4-H/Youth Development
Jennifer Hudnall & John Hearn

4-H Lends a Helping Hand

Youth learn the rights and responsibilities of membership within their own family, community, state and world through 4-H citizenship projects. As a county-wide citizenship project, the Franklin County 4-H Program conducted a book drive for the Cameron Parish Library in Cameron, Louisiana. Two volunteers, Ken and Jeannie Andries, spearheaded the collection, organization and delivery effort. Along with 4-H school clubs, the collection efforts also spread to KSU campus and Scott County 4-H. Over 8,000 books were collected.



The Andries family took collected books to Cameron Parrish, Louisiana and book donations exceeded the library's storage capacities! The remainder of the books was then donated to the local Paul Sawyer Library for its annual book sale.



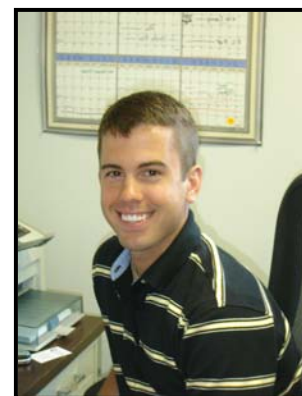
Calvin, Jeannie and Ken Andries load up books for the 4-H Book Drive

4-H Program Welcomes John Hearn

The Franklin County Cooperative Extension Service is proud to introduce John Hearn as our newest Extension Agent for 4-H and Youth Development. The Franklin County 4-H program now has two full time agents for 4-H and Youth Development.

John brings a wealth of knowledge, a passion for youth and plenty of enthusiasm to the Franklin

County 4-H Program. John will work with 4-H camp, school clubs, livestock club, teen programming, Cloverbuds, animal science curriculum, leadership curriculum, communications programming among many other 4-H programs.



4-H Specialty Clubs

The current 4-H program offers the following clubs for Franklin County Youth. These clubs include 4-H Dog Club, 4-H Horse Club, 4-H Shooting Sports, 4-H Livestock Club, 4-H Elementary School Clubs, and 4-H Afterschool Clubs.

The program also offers special activities and programs. These include 4-H camp, 4-H environmental camping, school enrichment, speech contest, demonstration contests, variety show, special day camps, 4-H Reality Store, 4-H Dollars and Sense, Fashion Revue and special interest groups.

Horticulture
Kim Cowherd

Franklin County Horticulture program provides information to homeowners, commercial landscape professionals, small crop producers and youth to be better consumers and stewards of the natural world and our environment. Plants are an important part of everyone's life and sound, research based knowledge helps us use and conserve these resources wisely.

Horticulture Programs

Horticulture programming and publications cover a multitude of various topics and address all members of the community. Some of these programs included: Gardener's Toolbox- which provided 12 classes, one per month, on basic gardening and landscaping; Horticulture Hotline- the monthly newsletter packed with horticultural topics; Cooking Camp- kids learned where their food comes from; State Fair Horticulture competition- kids competed on the State level to judge fruits and vegetables and identify plant materials; Civic Club speaking engagements- presentations on everything from Extension to Spring Gardening to Landscape Design.

The Extension Horticulture program participated in the Kentucky Herb Festival, Frankfort City Arbor Day Celebration, the Kentucky Federated Garden Club Garden School, and Kentucky Invasive Pest Plant Week.

Farmers Market

Franklin County Extension supports and advises the Franklin County Farmers Market. The Market Association had 28 members this season with 13 participating in the Farmers Market Nutrition program that supplies coupons to WIC and Senior recipients for purchase of fresh, local produce. The Market partnered with Kentucky State University Small Farms Program to hold a special 3rd Thursday Thing program. Also the Market partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to host an Ice Cream Social for the Frankfort Community.



Kids learn about fresh vegetables at Cooking Camp

Master Gardener

Extension held the county’s first Extension Master Gardener program in the fall of 2007. Eighteen people completed the rigorous thirteen weeks of training. The topics consisted of botany, soils, pathology, pest management, entomology, fruits and vegetables, to name a few. After passing a comprehensive exam and completing 30 hours of volunteer service to the Extension program, the students become Certified Master Gardeners who join other Certified Master Gardeners to be an asset to Extension.



Master Gardeners learn about invasive plants on a trip to Cove Spring Park

Reaching Out to Franklin County

<i>Educational Programs</i>	
Programs presented	665
Total participants	18,252
<i>Educational Contacts</i>	
Office, field, email & telephone visits	42,565
Newsletters distributed	25,284
<i>Volunteer Development</i>	
Volunteers	134
Volunteer hours	7,125
Clientele reached by volunteers	3,401

The Franklin County Cooperative Extension Service

We deliver information, education, solutions.

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