

# EXTENSION Today



## IN HENRY COUNTY

*In Henry 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 Henry County Cooperative Extension Office is your connection to the University of Kentucky and the world.*

*"There are two spiritual dangers in not owning a farm. One is the danger of supposing that breakfast comes from the grocery, and the other that heat comes from the furnace." -Aldo Leopold on the importance of Agriculture.-*



**More Than  
You  
Imagined**

### Applied Master Cattleman

Feed costs are the major expense of producing beef. Livestock rations must be properly balanced for beef cattle to make efficient use of feeds. It is an important tool that producers can use to maximize profits. In November, 2011, twenty Master Cattlemen participated in an Advanced Nutrition program. Each producer submitted a forage sample to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture Forage Lab. Producers learned how to calculate winter forage needs to determine if they had sufficient hay supplies on hand. Using their forage analysis as a guide, producers balanced feed rations using the Pearson Square method. Ninety five percent of participants rated the program content good to excellent. A follow-up survey was mailed to producers

in May, 2012. One hundred percent of respondents indicated they: could still calculate winter hay feeding needs, understood the components of the forage analysis and their importance in evaluating forage quality, understand the importance of forage testing to accurately determine livestock nutritional needs, and are confident they can determine the most cost effective feeds for meeting these needs. Seventy one percent felt confident in using the Pearson square to balance feed rations. All survey participants plan to implement additional forage testing in 2012. When asked, what is the most important thing you learned, one producer commented, "Being prepared for the winter feeding season and



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quality forage translates into pounds of gain!” Another producer said, “test all forages; feed less quality first; feed best quality before and during calving.”

## Promoting Woodlands Management

Twenty five percent of Henry County – nearly 50,000 acres – is made up of privately owned woodlands, according to the Kentucky Division of Forestry. Many woodland owners are looking for the first time at woodlands as an income source in light of the recent national and local economic situation.

Henry, Oldham, and Trimble County Extension Services hosted One Acre at a Time: A Kentucky Woodland Owner Seminar in March 2012 for 105 participants from the Louisville area. The program was designed to assist participants in properly managing and caring for woodlands using environmentally and economically sustainable practices.

One Acre at a Time featured presentations on initiating woodland and wildlife management plans; recognizing signs of woodland health issues; working effectively with wildlife biologists and foresters; understanding services available from these resources; and selling timber. A post-program evaluation indicated 90%



of respondents gained knowledge from the program that would help them effectively manage their woodlands. Evaluations also revealed a 61% increase in knowledge gained about options for managing woodlands for timber and wildlife and where to seek assistance. There was a 50% increase in knowledge gained about woodland health threats and where to seek assistance. 74% indicated they would contact a forester and/or begin a management plan as a result of attending One Acre at a Time. Based on an historical 40% implementation rate of practices and an average of 124 owned woodland acres per owner/survey respondent, each participant will implement practices on 49 woodland acres. In personal conversations with local



Consulting Foresters and personnel from the Kentucky Division of Forestry, it appears these assumptions are accurate. Long-term impacts from this

program will result in improved woodland health and productivity and increased revenue from timber sales.

## Homemakers:

### The Original Social Network

*A cable is defined as a group of wires bundled together for the purpose of transmission, Extension is the cable that has been Extension Homemakers connection to Henry County for 75 years!*



You'll likely find them around every corner: Extension Homemaker volunteers who make a difference each day in local churches, community organizations, neighborhoods,

senior centers and other organizations. In total, these unsung heroes are making a bigger impact than ever as local budgets evaporate and community needs escalate. About half of U.S. seniors (52%) volunteer their time through unpaid community service and nearly 20% of senior volunteers surveyed started volunteering when they reached the traditional age of retirement – 65 or older. Furthermore, 20% of seniors who volunteer say that their community service is the most important thing they do. Seniors who volunteer give an average of 15 hours a month in unpaid service. 70% of seniors who volunteer indicate they plan on volunteering “forever.” This percentage is slightly higher for senior volunteers who suffer from chronic health problems. In fact, managing chronic conditions and maintaining health are important motivations. 75% of senior volunteers surveyed who have chronic conditions say that staying

active through volunteering helps them manage these conditions. It's also a way for developing important social connections – meeting new friends or volunteering with current ones. In addition, it's a great way for them to learn new things – whether a skill or just something about an issue in which they have an interest. Volunteering is just a great way to expand horizons. Since Americans will live a third of their adult lives after the traditional age of retirement it becomes more of an opportunity to give back and make a difference.

## Extension Homemaker Association

The Kentucky Extension Homemaker Association celebrated its 80th anniversary this year and the Henry County Homemakers will celebrate their 75th Annual Meeting and the organization continues to evolve to meet the needs of Kentucky families. The Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association began in 1932 as the Kentucky Federation of Homemakers. The goal of the organization was to unify the efforts and strengthen the voice of Kentucky Homemakers while helping them develop leadership skills and broaden their horizon. Across Kentucky, KEHA members have an impact in local communities. The impact extends beyond Kentucky to the projects they support around the world. While the organization has changed over the years, the Extension Homemakers have always emphasized family, community and leadership. Extension Homemakers have donated items and money to a lot of worthy causes over the years including UK ovarian cancer research, the Kentucky Academy in Ghana and



scholarships to students pursuing a degree in the UK School of Human Environmental Sciences.

## The UK Schmidt Opera Outreach Presents: Little Red Riding Hood/ Stranger Danger

According to the National Arts Education Association, students with arts rich education are proven to have better grade point averages, score better on standardized tests and have lower dropout rates. Even though Henry County is not one of the poorest counties in Kentucky and is located within 50 miles of Louisville there are still many families in our county who do not have the resources to provide many true arts/theater opportunities for their children. The Henry County Extension Board and staff support this belief and have identified the need for more art education opportunities.

Therefore we jumped at the opportunity to collaborate with the UK the Extension Fine Arts Program, the UK Schmidt Opera Outreach Program, and our local schools. Each year the UK Opera does a fall traveling show and through a matching grant program we were able to bring the theater performance to our county! The students were involved in all four areas of the ARTS; Visual, Dance, Music and Theater!



The traveling show this fall was "Little Red's Most Unusual Day" and was a one-act musical production with the theme of stranger danger. The troupe brought the show to the new theater in the Henry County High School and presented two performances co-sponsored by the grant the Extension Board and the Henry County School Board to all of the Henry County elementary students.

The Opera was a huge success with everyone from students, to faculty, to the School

Superintendent giving rave reviews. The Extension Office received many thank you letters from the students and teachers indicating how much they appreciated the opportunity to have such a quality arts performance in our local community.

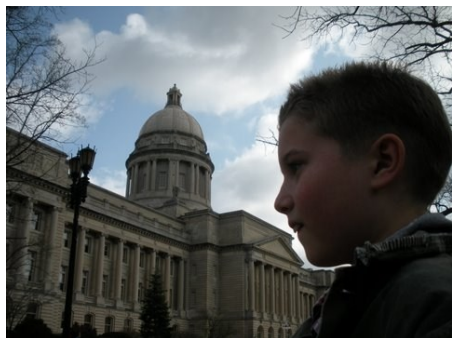
## A 4-H Capitol Experience

Henry County had a group of 32 participants attend the 4-H Capitol Experience March of 2011.

The day began with sitting in on a committee hearing. The youth were excited that Rep. Rick Rand recognized them during the meeting. After the meeting was concluded the group discussed the necessary steps for a bill to become a law.

The group was also able to meet with a lobbyist. She told the group that her clients hired her to provide information to lawmakers on behalf of their cause. She described this process similar to a child making a plea to their parent as to why the parent should rule in their favor.

While touring the Capitol Building the group learned many interesting facts about Kentucky's history as well as about the building. The youth were very excited to see Gov. Beshear and Lt. Gov. Abrams giving remarks to a visiting group. They had pictures made with Sen. Ernie Harris and Sen. Paul Hornback. Each of the senators encouraged the teens to stay involved with the 4-H programs since both of them were former 4-H'ers. Sen. Harris served as State 4-H President as a senior in high school.



Following a discussion about the day everyone felt they had learned a lot about state government

and that being in the Capitol made it more

exciting and real to them. One young man said that he had always thought that what government officials did was boring, but now he realizes the importance of what they do.

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*We deliver information, education, solutions.*  
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