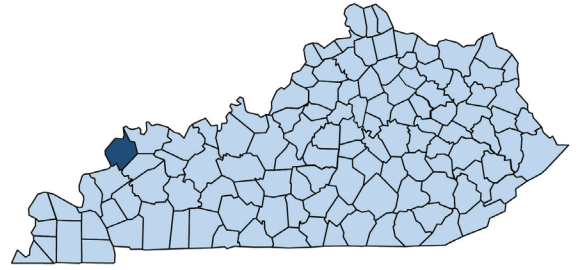


REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



Union County 2021



DID YOU KNOW... 2021 KY State Fair 4-H Country Ham overall winner, Ryan Thomas from Union County 4-H Program.



Website: union.ca.uky.edu



Facebook: Union County 4-H

For More Information, Please Contact us at:

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4-H Youth Development



Union County 4-H was overall winner at the KY State Fair 4-H Country Ham Contest

- 35 Number of youth who demonstrated a skill that was learned or improved by participating in 4-H agriculture programming
- 74 Number of youth who gained an understanding of the role of agriculture in the production of food, fiber, and wood products

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Union County is known not only for the quality of grain produced but also the quantity. Farmers started harvest for Union County in the early part of September and within a few days, yield contest entries were received. Being able to go out and supervise harvest provided an opportunity to meet with farmers during a time that is normally next to impossible.

I was able to reach out and help with harvest problems, discuss options for wintering their fields, and see what needed to be done within the county before next season. Some farmers needed help sourcing dryers or storage facilities while others needed help with rust and pests. The yield contest also provided a chance to work with farmers that hadn't been involved with University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension in a while. Between fifteen and twenty yield contest checks have taken place thus far and while it may not be as many as neighboring counties, it is more than were conducted I

This year the 4-H Country Ham project had 13 youth from Union County participate in the Country Ham project. The program was brought back to Union County with the help of Meacham Hams volunteer time and service to this valuable project. 5 participants were able to participate at the State Fair. Ryan Thomas from Union County had the overall winning ham for State. This was a great accomplishment for Union County.

Due to the Pandemic not all participants were able to participate at the State Fair.



Harvesting Corn

- 46 Number of producers that increased knowledge of production, fertility management, varieties, insect control, disease or pests and/or sustainable practices
- 80 Number of producers who applied Extension information for grain production related to fertility management, varieties, control of insect, disease or pest and/or sustainable practices

Family and Consumer Sciences



Vickie Belt, Union County Program Assistant distributing bags at Drive Thru Mouse in the House 2021 Event

47 Number of participants reporting intention to eat more fruits

47 Number of participants reporting intention to eat more vegetables

NUTRITION EDUCATION

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic according to 2019 data from the Feeding America website, one in seven Kentuckians were food insecure and those aged 50-59 had the highest rate of food insecurity in the nation. During the pandemic, demand on food banks significantly increased as families faced layoffs and cutbacks at work. In response, during the 2020-2021 program year, 78% of SNAP-Ed and EFNEP Nutrition Education Program (NEP) Assistants reported partnering with local food banks to share recipes, newsletters and other materials and resources in food boxes. One SNAP-Ed Assistant reported delivering 100 Emergency Food Assistance cookbooks, 1,250 healthy and easy recipes, 300 Seasoned newsletters and 200 Healthy at Home newsletters to a local food pantry. A recipient said, "I was so happy to see recipes in my food box. Sometimes it's hard to think of ways to use some things you receive. These recipes will help me prepare healthier meals when feeding my family. Thank you." By partnering with food banks, NEP was able to reach hundreds of families throughout Kentucky.

The Union County Early Childhood Council has host annual for the past 10 years, "The Mouse in the House" math/literacy event The goal is to enable children and their families to increase literacy and math skill levels. The literacy and math skills are vital key skills that prepare the child throughout the school career. Developing these skills at an early age will help prepare them for their future. We have grown from this challenge and prepared ourselves on being creative in many aspects of keeping the traditional way but creating new ways to launch valuable information.

This year, booths were set up in a drive thru fashion and 200 + families were provided with information, books and healthy SNAP Ed recipes. The Union County Extension office prepared literacy skilled matching game to kindergarteners along with Nutritious information and recipes. Increasing literacy awareness and enhancing parental skills at home.



NOTHING IS OUT OF REACH.



Healthy Families. Healthy Homes. Healthy Communities.



Website: extension.ca.uky.edu



Facebook: @UKCooperativeExtension



Twitter: @UKExtension



YouTube: @UKAgriculture

... just a few ways Extension supports Kentucky

- *23,971 Kentucky youth who participated in a project, activity or event in science, engineering and technology through 4-H programming.*
- *4,890 Kentucky producers adopting new technologies in agriculture production.*
- *3,399 Kentuckians who improved or maintained health from participating in gardening.*
- *3,898 Kentucky families who supplemented their diets with foods they grew or preserved.*
- *4,161 Kentuckians participating in community trail projects.*

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



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