

CLINTON COUNTY EXTENSION

REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



2022-2023



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OPERATION HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS

For the past three years, the Clinton County Extension Office has facilitated Operation Hometown Christmas to encourage communication and collaboration among individuals, groups, businesses, churches, and families during the holiday season. To ensure the needs of more families are met, Operation Hometown Christmas utilizes one standard application for assistance, one master list for sponsors, and works to create a seamless system of service for families in need. Since its inception, 24 volunteers have developed, marketed, and managed the process. Over 267 different sponsors participated to serve 1,248 children and adults throughout Clinton County. To date, Operation Hometown Christmas has generated over \$72,450 in support for families.



WELDING SCHOOL FOR FARMERS

Minor equipment breakdowns can cost producers big money in lost time or repair bills. Local producers identified the need for hands-on basic welding instruction. In response, an eight-week basic welding school held at the Clinton County Area Technology Center under the instruction of the welding technology teacher. 12 producers from Clinton and Cumberland counties participated in the series which enhanced skills in Mig welding, Oxy/Acetylene cutting, plasma cutting, and Oxy fuel cutting. Evaluations revealed that 100% of participants plan to attempt small on-farm repair jobs that require welding. Due to the success of the series, 91% indicated interest in an advanced class which is being planned for spring 2023.



Welders at work

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YOUTH HUNTER EDUCATION

Youth hunter education helps prevent hunting and shooting incidents while improving hunter behavior and compliance with hunting laws. A Hunter Education Course was offered in December which focused on hunter ethics, wildlife conservation and identification, field care of game, first aid, firearm safety, archery and muzzleloading. The day included live range practice at the Clinton County Fairgrounds where all 4-H Shooting Sports activities are held. 46 youth received their Hunter Education Cards as part of the event and are now ready to be safe and responsible outdoors.



Range practice during
Hunter Education



Experimenting with
beeswax wraps

EATING & SHOPPING SUSTAINABLY

A five session Sustainable Kentucky series taught consumers practical strategies to reduce food waste, save food dollars, eat locally raised products, and shop sustainably. 100% of participants expressed their intention to purchase food products with less packaging and to transform leftovers into new meals to minimize the amount of food thrown away.

I try to reuse, reduce, and recycle as much as possible. I loved the class. I especially loved learning about Kentucky Proud products. I make sure I look for that logo in stores, farmers markets, etc.
-Participant

FUNGICIDE APPLICATION

Grain crop producers continually struggle with choices related to fungicide application. Proper application timing is typically at tasseling which can prove difficult without a high clearance sprayer. A corn fungicide trial using drone technology (provided by a new startup company) was implemented at the request of a local grain producer. Clinton and Cumberland County ANR agents designed and flagged the plots while the company used drones to aerially apply fungicides on four replications while four were untreated. Trial results are pending but additional tests for fungicide application are planned. For more information, contact the office.



Drone aerial fungicide
application

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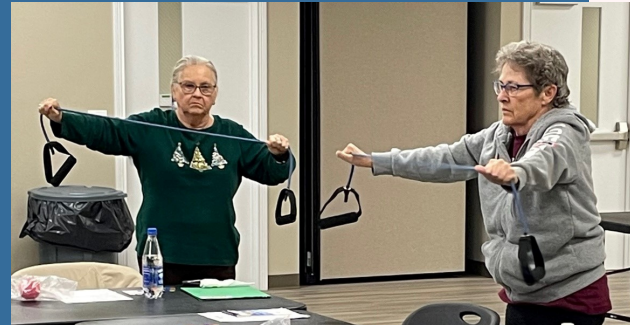


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BINGOCIZE

Everyone needs physical activity. Bingocize combines exercise and health information with bingo to get people moving and exercising. Seven participants completed a ten-week Bingocize program which met twice a week at the Extension Office. Exercises focused on flexibility, balance, and mobility. Social engagement is also an important component of the program. Several Bingocize participants continue to engage in other FCS Extension programs to connect socially and discuss exercises they are maintaining at home. 100% of participants indicated they had taken measures to reduce the risk of falls and felt comfortable increasing their activity level.



Bingocize participants using resistance bands

Bingocize was so much more than bingo! The exercises were so helpful to my old joints and the social activity was great for my mental health! Always felt better after attending!

-Participant

PROGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE SAFETY DAY



Electrical Safety Demonstration by South Kentucky RECC

Clinton County 4-H partnered with Progressive Insurance and the Middle School to host a Safety Day for 104 fifth grade students. Safety sessions and demonstrations targeted electrical, lawn mower, water, emergency, fire, tool and chainsaw, firearm, internet and cyber, farm, and safety while home alone. 92% of students indicated they learned an important aspect of safety they will use in their own lives.

MASTER CHEFS

Thirteen middle school students completed a five-week afterschool Master Chef Program which included basic cooking skills, food label reading, and making healthy choices when picking snacks or eating out. Students followed recipes and utilized food preparation skills to create healthy meals that were then shared with adults in their families. Adults also gained information about food safety, proper nutrition, and healthy eating on a budget. Quality family meal time was a highlight of the series. 93% of families reported eating more meals at home. 100% of youth participants reported consuming more fruits and vegetables on a daily basis.



Youth cooking skills in action

CLINTON COUNTY EXTENSION

READY TO SERVE OUR PEOPLE



Did you know?

- Jack S. Kidd was Clinton County's first County Extension Agent for Agriculture. He started in 1934 and served our community for three years.
- Our first County Extension Agent for Home Economics was Velva J. Cockrel. Jerri was a part of our Extension family from 1962-1968.
- Several years later in 1980, Tim Thompson joined the community as our first 4-H Youth Development Agent. He served for two years.
- Your Current Extension Family:
 - Colby Guffey, ANR Agent 2013
 - Christy Stearns, FCS Agent 2007
 - Linda Bell, 4-H Program Assistant 1996
 - Melinda Cross, Staff Assistant 2008
 - Stacy Smith, Nutrition Education Program Assistant 2012

For more information, please contact us at:

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