

Report to the People

Union County • 2019

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



2019 Country Ham Winners receive trophies for their hard work and dedication

4-H is all about creating opportunities for youth, especially in the 4-H Country Ham Project! The Country Ham Project has been a long time tradition for youth in Union County lasting 17 years thus far. The Union County 4-H program had 18 4-H members submit ham contracts, cure country hams, and engage in the 2019 Country Ham Project at the local Union County Fair and Country Ham Breakfast. The Union County Country Ham Project membership increased by nine youth between the years of 2018 and 2019. Each year youth showcase their hams and present country ham speeches at the local Union County Fair and are then awarded for their dedication and presented with prizes at the Country Ham Breakfast, held Saturday morning of county fair week. The Union County 4-H Country Ham Project Club hosted it's 17th Annual Country Ham Breakfast this year. With over 100 tickets being sold, the Country Ham Breakfast had a record attendance of 125 individuals. Also at the breakfast, six country hams were auctioned off raising a total of \$2,050 to help offset the cost of the State Fair Competition trip in August.

For More Information, Please Contact us at:

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Agriculture and Natural Resources

Safety comes first in Union County! Safety Day is an outdoor safety program where safety, environment, and agriculture are all tied together. This unique Safety Day provides excellent training for all fifth graders in Union County. From 1993 to 2019, approximately 4,635 students have attended this safety training program. 184 fifth graders in Union County participated in Farm Safety Day.

Some of the safety skill areas taught were fire, horses, farm machinery, guns, water activities, electrical, grain bins and weather safety taught by a local meteorologist,

Nearly 95% of the students said yes to all three of these questions. We also went on to ask youth which safety area they liked best and why. One youth answered "I really enjoyed the safety house because I have a large fear of fires and this helped me to know what to do." The Union County 4-H program continuously seeks ways to better this educational program for the youth in Union County.

Family and Consumer Sciences

Union County held its 14th annual World's Greatest Baby Shower on June 6, 2019. The baby shower was a free educational, informative and interactive program for expectant mothers and guests. The program covered such topics as infant dental health, breast-feeding, and the "Mommy Survival Guide." The "Ask a Doc" session allowed participants to ask questions to local doctors. In addition to expert advice, there were opportunities to win valuable and useful door prizes. A light meal was served to the participants.

The Baby Shower was open to all of Union County's expectant mothers. Twenty-one expectant mothers ranging in age from 15 to 40 attended with guests. 21 participants took advantage of the 15 exhibitor booths.

Car seat checks were provided by the Morganfield Police Department for mothers as well. Each of the "mom's to be" received a

door prize and products totaling an average of \$100.00 each as a result of donations from vendors and event sponsors.

The exit evaluations showed that 100% of the participants learned something new and indicated useful information was given. Community partner feedback was the baby shower was a success.

Extension At a Glance

49 Individuals attended 4-H Camp

300 Middle and High school students expanded their knowledge through the Reality Store Program

34 Adults gained knowledge about their health at the Stroke Awareness Lunch n' Learn

43 Youth completed projects and exhibited at the Union County Fair

205 Youth participated in organized 4-H community clubs

28 Youth explored the world of Robotics through Science, Engineering, and Technology curriculum

34 Youth participated in the Cooking Club and gained knowledge about kitchen safety and MyPlate healthy choices

125 Community members attended the 17th Annual Country Ham Breakfast

8 Individuals participated in the Master Gardener Program and volunteering in the community

*It Starts With Us.
Healthy Families. Healthy Homes.
Healthy Communities.*