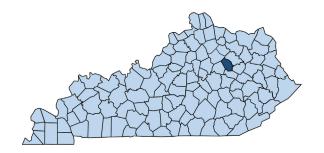
REPORT TO THE PEOPLE Montgomery County 2021



DID YOU KNOW... Montgomery County had 2 Silver and 5 Bronze State Achievement Award winners in the honors program.





Website: https://montgomery.ca.uky.edu/



Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MontgomeryCES

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Family and Consumer Sciences



Learning to sort colors, shapes and counting to 10.

50

Number of individuals who reported increased knowledge, skills, or intentions related to using the nutrition facts label

(127)

Number of program participants who demonstrated an increase in physical activity levels

Montgomery County kindergarten readiness rates are below the state average. In 2020, the kindergarten readiness rate was 34.6% compared to the Kentucky rate at of 51%. This poses a problem for parents, school systems, and students. To address this problem, the Montgomery County Family and Consumer Sciences Agent offered a 12-series Laugh and Learn Playdate Program for preschool aged students 0-5 years old accompanied by their parent/caregiver. The program offers learning activities that are relevant to children's development and also coincide to help celebrate holidays or seasonal activities. The program includes a healthy snack, story, craft, music activity, fine motor and large motor activity, and free play. While it is too early to provide solid evaluation statistics, the parents have had a tremendously positive response to the program. For the first session, we had 28 families register and attend.

Nutrition Education

Montgomery, Bath and Menifee Counties Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agents collaborated to offer a food preservation workshop for a total of seven participants. Agents taught lessons and led hands-on food preservation experiences for pressure canning, water bath canning, and freezing methods. Participants were able to assist in making canned vegetable soup, canned blueberry-lemon jam and frozen corn. One hundred percent of participants identified research-based methods of home food preservation as a result of the program, differentiated between high and low acid foods, accurately prepared food products using the boiling water canning, pressure canning, and freezing method of preservation, and identified signs of spoilage in home canned foods. One participant reported an increase in skill level from beginner to intermediate in the method of freezing for food preservation.



Multi-County Food Preservation Workshop held at the Montgomery County Extension Office.



Number of individuals reporting improved personal knowledge of healthy ways to promote children's success in school



Number of participants who reported that they better understand the importance of caregiving preparation as a result of aging programs

4-H Youth Development



Teaching life skills, ethics and self confidence through 4-H Shooting Sports programs.

74

Number of youth and adults who engaged in volunteer service in their communities through the 4-H program

32)

Number of youth who indicated they are interested in learning more about science, engineering or technology projects

The Montgomery County 4-H Shooting Sports program is the largest of the 4-H programs in the county. It is a program that attracts young people who enjoy the outdoors while at the same time learning marksmanship. Young people develop life skills, self-confidence, and conservation ethics due to the programs activities (club meetings, practices, competitions, etc.) and the support of caring volunteer adult leaders who serve as coaches and coordinators who mentor them. The county shooting sports program felt the pandemics immediate effects postponing then altering the clubs meetings and events particularly the spring fundraising project which transformed to a virtual fundraising event. The club addressed the challenges mindfully and responsibly. The club fundraising event went virtual in August. As a result of implementing the event virtually, the club raised the needed funds to cover the clubs budget.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Pasture forages provide the majority of the nutrients for Montgomery County beef cattle and other livestock. Due to weather conditions, winter feeding areas and in some cases over grazing, weeds such as Buttercup have become a major problem in many pastures. These weeds compete with and reduce the availability of our desired grazing forages. The Montgomery County Extension District Board purchased a special sprayer for the ANR Agent to make available to Montgomery County farmers to help combat pasture and hayfield weed problems. In March, we completed our first Buttercup Spray Program. Sixteen farmers participated in this weed control demonstration program and sprayed 340 acres of pasture to control buttercup as well as poison hemlock and thistles.



New Sprayer Purchased for Farmers Use in the Community.

1153

Number of clientele increasing agriculture awareness due to Extension programming



Number of people who gained knowledge of forage production, management and/or profitability, best management practices for forage harvest and storage, pasture renovation

Community Economic Development

The Farmers' Market provides an economic benefit & healthy nutritional role to our citizens. Its leadership has made great strides to improve the shopping experience of its customers. A new Pavilion was built by the City to accommodate the sales of the Market. This pavilion provides a clean, attractive & easily accessible location for the customers. The Market has accepted WIC and Senior Coupons for many years. Most recently its leadership has applied for & received grant funds to hire a Market Manager & to offer Double Dollars Coupons to both the WIC & Senior Benefits. The Market is now able to receive customers SNAP benefits & to offer Double Dollars on those as well. The Market has created a website & Facebook page to better inform its customers about what vendors will have each day and to promote Market events. The Market leadership with the help of the Extension Service has done an outstanding job improving this community venue.



The New Pavilion was built by the city as the new home for the Farmers Market.



Number of people who used Extension information to make decisions on horticulture site selection, varieties and or maintenance



Number of growers who gained knowledge in commercial horticulture including pest and disease management & soil management, etc

... 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.
- 3,898 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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