Congratulations Dr. Kurth
Last week, the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Hall of Fame Task Force proudly announced that Dr. Joseph R. Kurth, retired Kentucky 4-H Youth Development Assistant Director was selected for the National 4-H Hall of Fame laureates 2015 Class to be inducted on October 9, 2015 at the National 4-H Center. The group of laureates selected exemplifies outstanding work in “Making the Best Better”. Kentucky 4-H is so proud!!!!!

4-H Youth Development Institute
4-H Youth Development Agents are very diverse and have a range of expertise and backgrounds. Skills and knowledge differ based on college degrees and personal interests. However, 4-H agents are expected to have a 4-H Youth Development Program in their county that develops youth through 4-H curriculum and numerous educational and learning opportunities. To help agents understand how to apply the youth development model in their program, our department is developing a 4-H Youth Development Institute. This institute will offer agents an opportunity to study, understand and apply the principles of positive youth development in their county program. Our goal is to offer a certificate of mastery to 4-H agents in this area. More details to come.

Credit Card Payments for some 4-H Events through Kentucky 4-H Foundation
For many of our state 4-H events, payments are handled through account managers through the Kentucky 4-H Foundation. To better accommodate the counties, the foundation has established a system of paying for registration through a credit card. Hopefully this will streamline the system and assist with meeting payment deadlines to avoid late fees.

We are aware that counties are organized differently which will require each county to determine if and how this can be implemented at the county level.

Teen Conference-new and challenging
The State Teen Conference will be held on June 8-11 on the UK Campus. This year we will face some new and challenging opportunities. The delegation will be staying in the new dorms which will offer better lodging experiences for the teens and convenient meeting rooms for after hour meetings.

Challenges will occur because of the Student Center is closed. This closing will interfere with meal options, the awards banquet and the two dances. Meals will be served in the Commons which will allow youth to do a lot of walking from classes, dorms, and to eat. Despite the challenge, we are looking forward to a great event!

Positive Impact on Youth
The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development from Tufts University (2013) indicates that 4-H makes a difference in the lives of youth especially for those who continue to be a part of the 4-H Program in their teen years. Kentucky offers many opportunities for teens to be involved in the program including the state and national judging events, State Teen Council and the 4-H Teen Boards. I want to encourage you and your volunteers to develop strategies for teen involvement at the county and state level.
Reporting youth in ES 237
The ES 237 is an annual state report to NIFA, USDA that reflects any and all youth taking part in programs provided as a result of action by Cooperative Extension personnel including professional, paraprofessional and volunteers. This includes youth participating in EFNEP, Snap-Ed, Urban Gardening and other programs that may not actually use the 4-H name and emblem with participants in addition to youth involved in the 4-H program. In the Kentucky CES, the 4-H On-Line is our method to collect the data related to youth participating in 4-H and other youth Extension program and this system also generates the Kentucky ES 237 report.

To ensure that Kentucky CES is reporting our youth participation accurately, please work with the agents in your county to develop a strategy for entering the total youth participation in your Extension program in the county 4-H On-Line system. Participation should reflect youth and 4-H participation from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. The due day for the ES 237 report from the county is July 15. If you have questions, please contact James Leslie, james.leslie@uky.edu.
Charlene Jacobs, Assistant Director for 4-H Youth Development

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAM INFORMATION

2015 Kentucky 4-H Homecoming
The 5th Annual Kentucky 4-H Homecoming will be held Saturday, June 6, 2015 at the Campbell House in Lexington beginning at 6:00 p.m. This year’s Homecoming will include a reception, dinner, program, and lots of 4-H memorabilia. The meal will be catered by the Kentucky Cattlemen’s Association and the Campbell House. Tickets are $50 per person and can be purchased on-line at www.kentucky4hfoundation.org or by calling Tony at 859-257-7178. Additional information is available on-line along with hotel information. Deadline for hotel reservations is May 17th and the ticket deadline is May 22nd. We ask that you please share this information with 4-H friends, alumni and volunteers. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join us for an evening of sharing memories and good food, while supporting 4-H. Keith L. Rogers, Executive Director, Kentucky 4-H Foundation

4-H Foundation Scholarship Program
The deadline for all scholarship applications must be postmarked by May 15th. Please share this information with your 4-H members that have a High School graduation date in 2015. Details and application scan be found at: http://kentucky4hfoundation.org/2015-kentucky-4-h.foundation-scholarship-program/
Keith L. Rogers, Executive Director, Kentucky 4-H Foundation

4-H Livestock Judging
The 2015 Kentucky 4-H Livestock Judging Contest and Awards Breakfast will be held on June 16-17, 2015. 2015 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST ENTRY DEADLINE – May 29, 2015. Don’t forget!!! Details can be found at http://afs4hyouth.ca.uky.edu/judging
Steve Austin, Extension Associate for Youth Livestock Programs

Kentucky 4-H Culinary Challenge
This year’s Kentucky 4-H Culinary Challenge will be held on June 9 during Teen Conference in the UK Foods Lab in Erikson Hall. Information is available on the public site at: http://4-h.ca.uky.edu/food_challenge and in the Resource Guide under “Culinary Challenge.”
Martha Welch, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development
Kentucky Attends National 4-H Conference in Washington DC

The National 4-H Conference is the premier civic engagement opportunity for Senior Level 4-H members who are actively engaged in 4-H programs across the U.S. and its territories. The conference is administered by 4-H National Headquarters of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Delegates attended training workshops, became acquainted with government, and had the opportunity to meet with state congressional leaders.

Kentucky selects four delegates to attend this event through the highly competitive Kentucky 4-H Achievement Program. This year’s delegates that attended the conference were, Julia Scott – Hart County, Audree Harper – Calloway County, and (Facilitator) Anna Meador – Simpson County.

The 4-H Achievement Program is a program for members from sixth grade through high school, with the Emerald Award being the highest honor for 4-H members. Youth are recognized and awarded points for participating in activities and events, completing projects and serving in leadership roles. The top ten ranked, 4-H Gold Achievement winners of the current year become eligible to compete for the highest Kentucky 4-H award, the Emerald Award. Of the ten youth, only four are selected through a rigorous interview and application process. They are awarded a college scholarship, and the opportunity to attend National 4-H Conference, in Washington D.C. National 4-H Conference is specifically focused on civic engagement, civic education, personal development, and leadership. Delegates arrive at the National 4-H Conference Center ready to connect, learn, engage, lead and impact their communities, their nation and their world.

Kim Leger, 4-H Youth Development Specialist

4-H Camp Update

We are currently fully staffed and every agent should have received the list of Camp Staff for 2015 from their Camp Director. All staff training is May 17 – 20 at the Lake Cumberland 4-H Center. We are looking forward to seeing the staff in action at this training. It’s usually a good indication of what our summer will be!

The 2015 Camp Menu is now posted on the Camp, Agent Resource Guide.

Many camp projects are wrapping up with the first camp only a month away. By the start of camp, you should see our new entrance signs at each location. Many of you have seen the pictures of them; we are excited to finally have these in place. Many thanks to the College and the State Office for the funding for some of the projects you see below.

J. M. Feltner 4-H Camp:

The new cabin will be completed and ready for use by mid-May; the new bunks arrived on May 1! A new floor is being installed as we speak in the Camp Dining Hall. We are without an assistant maintenance worker (Dave Kersker is moving to Florida), but should have someone in place by the end of May.

Lake Cumberland 4-H Camp:

The pool repair and re-painting is complete and the pool is full of water – and hopefully heating up! After our harsh winter, our new maintenance staff at Lake Cumberland is working fast and furious to finish the water line repairs and get camp ready for June 1 with the first group rolling in. Literally every
building on camp had leaks to repair. Please have patience with the maintenance staff at LC; the leaks have been a full time effort, so other projects had to be put on hold. Camp will be ready for you!

**North Central 4-H Camp:**
The pool re-painting is complete and it is filling with water – now we need some warm weather to warm it up! You’ll see some improvements in the archery range – new seating and storage building. Bids from contractors are being received at UK Purchasing to replace the siding on the Camp Dining Hall and install new seating and a new stage at the campfire area. We probably won’t see the results of these for summer, but hopefully work will begin in August.

**West Kentucky 4-H Camp:**
Coming soon will be new “patio” seating in the grassy area in front of the Camp Dining Hall. You’ll see great changes in both bath houses with new ceilings and heating capacity. The Maintenance staff has already competed the exterior painting of all girl’s cabins and they look great! They’ll gradually do the same for the boy’s cabins. More painting is scheduled to be completed before camp: Sparks Hall!

Our new Camp Directors are looking forward to a great summer with you and your campers.

_Donna M. Fox, 4-H Youth Development Extension Specialist_

**Shooting Sports**
In May, we held the re-scheduled Coach Certification Workshop (thanks to the snow in March!) and had approximately 100 volunteers attend and receive their certification.

The YHEC (Youth Hunter Education Challenge) state competition/camp is scheduled for May 23 –24 at the Lake Cumberland 4-H Center, Jabez. Visit the YHEC website for more information: [https://4-h.ca.uky.edu/content/youth-hunter-education-challenge](https://4-h.ca.uky.edu/content/youth-hunter-education-challenge)

_Donna M. Fox, 4-H Youth Development Extension Specialist_

**Dairy Summer Activities and Events and information.**

- **Dairy U: Know Before You Show**
  Will be held May 16 at Burley Fields in Horse Cave, Kentucky. Cost is $5 per person. Registration information and agenda are located on our website at [http://afsdairy.ca.uky.edu/extension/youth/DairyU](http://afsdairy.ca.uky.edu/extension/youth/DairyU)

- **State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest**
  When: June 15  
  Location: University of Kentucky Coldstream Dairy  
  Cost: $15/person  
  Registration Due: June 1st  
  Registration Form and information are located on our website at [http://afsdairy.ca.uky.edu/extension/youth/dairyjudging](http://afsdairy.ca.uky.edu/extension/youth/dairyjudging)

- **National 4-H Dairy Conference**
  When: September 27-October 1  
  Where: Madison, Wisconsin  
  Registration is due to Larissa by August 1st (Kentucky Delegates)  
  [http://afsdairy.ca.uky.edu/extension/youth/dairyconference](http://afsdairy.ca.uky.edu/extension/youth/dairyconference)

_Donna M. Fox, 4-H Youth Development Extension Specialist_

Larissa Tucker, Extension Associate for Dairy Youth Programs
PERSONNEL: 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENT POSITIONS
During the last five years, an average of 10 agents per year have been hired as county Extension agents for 4-H or as agents with responsibilities for both 4-H and ANR or FCS.
Martha Welch, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development

Skype Session for Interested Agents:
Each month, a one hour Skype (was Lync) session is hosted by state staff or experienced agents on upcoming events, projects or general 4-H topics. A few days before the session, a message will be sent to all agents by email. You’ll need a computer with a camera and a headset with microphone. (In-service credit is not given for these sessions.) For the first year of employment, newer agents are required to participate.

Join us for the following sessions:
- **May 4, 2015**—Topic: Country Ham project and Teen Conference. Link to session: [Join Skype Meeting](https://meet.uky.edu/mwelch/8bfyp0g3) or copy and pasted this address into the address box for Internet Explorer or Firefox: [https://meet.uky.edu/mwelch/8bfyp0g3](https://meet.uky.edu/mwelch/8bfyp0g3). This Skype address was emailed to you on 4-23-2015.
- **June 1, 2015**—Topic: Preparation for State Fair
- **July 7, 2015** (Tuesday)—Topics: Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference and Poultry projects & resources
- **August 3, 2015**—KY 4-H Volunteer Forum
- **September 8, 2015** (Tuesday)—Issues, Day of Service, and Scheduling State 4-H Officers for county visits

*When there is a conflict with the 1st Monday, most likely the session will be held the next day, on Tuesday.

Martha Welch, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development

UPCOMING IN-SERVICES FOR 2015
Be sure to pre-register for in-services that are of interest to you or youth in your county. Here’s a quick list of sessions specifically planned for 4-H agents but refer to the catalog in KERS for additional sessions targeted to all Extension agents. (4-H agents are not limited to the sessions below.)

- Home Energy Detectives: offered via Lync-- May 21; June 18 (part of FCS—Home Env. Core)
- High Ropes Training for Facilitators: May 7-8, Feltner 4-H Camp
- Environmental Certification over the River and through the Woods: FULL, May 7-8, Kentucky River and KSU Environmental Education Center in Henry Co.
- It’s Your Reality: May 14, Fayette CES (this replaces the Feb. 18 session cancelled due to weather)
- 2015 Series of In-Services: Dec. 1-3, 2015, Hyatt Regency Downtown, Lexington

Martha Welch, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development