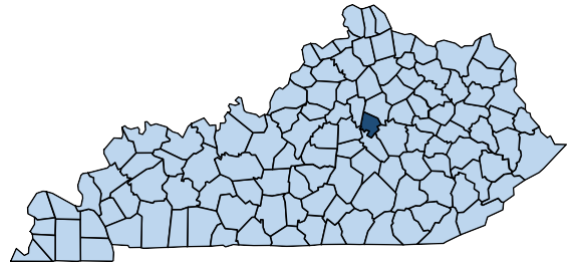


# REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



## Jessamine County 2024



### DID YOU KNOW...

Jessamine County is the location of the first commercial winery in the US? First Vineyard is located right here in our county!

Harmony Harvest Farm to Fork Dinner



## JUST A FEW OF OUR PROGRAMS



4-H  
Camp



Food  
Preparation



Farm  
Management



Health and  
Wellness



Website: [jessamine.ca.uky.edu](http://jessamine.ca.uky.edu)



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95 Park Dr., Nicholasville, KY 40356

# AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Steve Musen - Jessamine Co. Agent for Ag and Natural Resources

40	Number of people who earned certification to sell or provide samples at farmers market
140	Number of people who applied Extension recommendations for soil fertility

## Harmony Harvest Farm to Fork Dinner Highlights Local Food Systems

The recognition of the benefits of locally grown foods in terms of superior flavor, food safety and availability of heritage vegetable varieties has caused the popularity of Farmers Markets to steadily increase, especially in urban and sub-urban areas. Jessamine County enjoys two vibrant and growing Farmers Markets, the long-running Wilmore Market and the more recently established, Nicholasville Farmers Market. The two Farmers Markets are filling a growing demand for locally-grown, healthy and nutritious vegetables, fruit, meat and baked products.

A KDA Ag. Development Grant was submitted by the manager of the Nicholasville Farmers Market to conduct a "Harmony Harvest" Farm to Fork Dinner. The Jessamine County ANR, FCS and 4-H Youth Development Agents participated in the planning process.

The Jessamine County Farm to Fork Dinner was held on August 29th at the Jessamine County Extension Office. Meal tickets were sold and participants included community leaders and educators, Farmers Market vendors and customers. Silent auction items were donated by Farmers Market vendors and community members. 12 vendors from the Nicholasville Farmers Markets set up displays and marketed their products. A delicious meal was served, prepared by a local caterer, that featured locally grown fruit, vegetables and meat. Money raised by the sale of tickets and silent auction items will go towards offsetting the salary of the Farmers Market Manager in the 2025 market season.

The Farm to Fork Dinner was a great success and highlighted the many unique and healthy products available at the Nicholasville Farmers Market. Participants expressed appreciation for the opportunity to participate in a Farm to Fork event that highlighted locally grown foods and enjoyed the opportunity to meet community members with similar interests.

### Nicholasville Farmers Market



# FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

Sara Haag - Jessamine Co. Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences

In 2024, the Jessamine Co. Extension Office hired a new Family and Consumer Sciences agent, Sara Haag. Sara started her career in extension at the Fayette Co. Extension Office, as one of their Nutrition Education Program assistants. She transferred to the Jessamine Co. Extension Office in July.

## Fort Harrod Area FCS Agents



The Fort Harrod Area Family and Consumer Science Agents hosted the 2024-2025 Officer and Chairperson Training as a part of Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association (KEHA) preparation for the upcoming homemaker year with the theme of "Back to the Basics". The training focused on round tables session (marketing and recruitment, planning homemaker events, mission of KEHA, and homemaker fundraising), parliamentary procedures, a mock council meeting, sundae bar, a contest regarding the Homemaker Creed, exit activity, food and fun.

The agents realized that many homemaker clubs have new officers, and the membership needed a "fresh start" for their county clubs. The Officer and Chairperson training provided resource materials designed for use at the club, county, area, and state levels for programs throughout the year, with special emphasis on use for officer and leadership training sessions.

36 individuals completed the post-evaluation survey. Of those surveyed, 86% (n=31) were knowledgeable about homemaker marketing and recruitment and 75% (n=27) about homemaker fundraising; 72% (n=26) indicated they were confident in assisting or planning a homemaker event, finally, 64% (n=23) stated they understood the mission of KEHA. Finally, there were high levels of agreement that expressed the intention to share the information from today's training session with members of their club (100%, n=36) and 94% (n=34) will use what they learned today to fulfill a leadership role in their club, county, or area in the 2024-2025 KEHA programmatic year.

## Homemaker officer round table discussion



Participants shared the information provided in the training was very beneficial to them as a new-comer; agents covered so many important topics – they were glad that they came; and learned information on how to get the 30–40-year-olds to find an interest in homemakers. One specific participant shared that she hoped to start a club for deaf people.

Number of individuals who gained knowledge related to financial management.

120

13,500

Number of hours KEHA members volunteered in community service activities/events.

## 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Cathy Weaver - Jessamine Co. Agent for 4-H and Youth Development

### 4-H Camp

4-H Camp has a long-standing tradition of teaching youth the 4 elements of the circle of courage in a concentrated week. Belonging, Independence, Mastery, and Generosity are seen in every activity at camp. In a full capacity return from covid, Jessamine County had 376 total people attend camp, the highest number on record. Of those, 129 youth were first time campers, which is a much larger number than previous years. Jessamine County had 155 youth return to camp which is an increase in returning campers from years past.

This year, Jessamine County 4-H partnered with Mercer County 4-H to provide a weeklong camping experience that helped campers and counselors alike learn and be a part of the 4 elements, having 451 total participants there. Prior to camp, approximately 82 teen and adult leaders went through 24 hours of training, learning leadership, problem solving and teambuilding to help campers have a successful week. One counselor said "Through the training we participated in I was able to feel more comfortable for the camp week, and ultimately give my campers a better experience" The 82 leaders had a total of 8,280 volunteer hours for the camp week.

Upon returning from camp, Jessamine County 4-H had several phone calls, emails, and messages about the amazing experience each of their young people had at camp.

One parent stated that this was her child's first time away from home, and she appreciated all we did to ensure her child had a positive experience even though they got homesick. Another stated that her child says he would live at camp if he could, and that he has gained friends he knows he will have for a lifetime.

One camper stated that he knows what being a good person looks like, because camp taught him to be nice to others no matter what. All in all, 2024 Summer 4-H camp was a huge success.

### 4-H Camp Cake Decorating Class



376

Number of youth who participated in overnight 4-H Summer Camp. (Ages 9-14)

1500

Number of youth who worked in a team/group to accomplish a common task or goal



## Just a few ways Extension supports Kentucky

- **37,770** Kentucky youth applied the skills they learned in 4-H to home, school, or community.
- **240,528** Kentuckians gained information on beef nutrition, animal health, genetics, reproduction, and facility management.
- **25,300** Kentuckians reported improved knowledge regarding disaster preparedness.
- **19,395** Kentucky individuals are more likely to buy a Kentucky fruit or vegetable because of receiving Plate it up! Kentucky Proud recipe cards and sampling a recipe.
- **13,627** Kentucky youth completed a speech or demonstration.

**KENTUCKY**    
**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

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