

Lincoln Trail Area Extension Homemaker Highlights 2018-1019

Breckinridge Countryside Homemakers Club decided they would choose one community-based program that could benefit from their focused talents and commitment to volunteerism. Countryside Club members chose to partner with the Breckinridge County Middle School and High School Choral program. The major focus for the project was to volunteer for the high school musical, *Beauty and the Beast*. The club designed, built and painted scenery and stage props. They helped with costuming and worked the lobby during the performances including ticket sales, ushering, rose sales and Fan Grams. Following the show's break down of the set, the Homemakers provided beverages, snacks and desserts for the students as they worked to "Strike the Set". All shared their memories about the 10 weeks they had worked together on the show. In total the outstanding women of the Countryside Club donated well over 100 hours to the BCHS musical production that was enjoyed by 800 students (4th-12th grade) and almost 2000 audience members from our local community. The Countryside members also assisted the choir with other performances by providing repairs and alterations to their traditional performance uniforms, served dinner and donated desserts for the choir's spaghetti dinner fundraiser. They also served as ushers and managed the Fan Gram Sales for the Spring Revue and served pizza to 250+ students after their District Assessment performance. The Countryside Homemakers Club served as a contributing sponsor with 281 volunteer hours plus additional resources to a program that is providing educational and life-skill youth development which in turn provides local, rural community with enriching arts experiences.

On Thursday, October 4, Breckinridge County Homemakers and local officials unrolled the welcome mat for the 2018 LTA Extension Homemakers Annual Meeting. After many hours of planning and preparation by special planning committees, the county welcomed 169 participants to the event. The program included greetings from dignitaries from the UK School of Environmental Sciences and the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, and local and state legislators. Also, the guests enjoyed an educational and entertaining performance from a Kentucky Humanities Chautauqua performer. Following a delicious lunch, viewing of the cultural arts and shopping at the local artisan pop-up market, the program wrapped up with officer election and installations. Each attendee received a welcome bag crafted from colorful recycled feed bags and handmade KEHA bookmarks and a greeting card crafted by local homemakers. The colorful fall-themed event exhibited the local Homemaker leadership talents while showcasing the community and its riches.



**Breckinridge County Homemakers
hosted the 2018 LTA Meeting**

Hardin Cecilia Homemakers club placed second in the state in the Community Volunteerism awards for their HUGS project: a project started by their club that has now been adopted by several other Hardin County clubs. **HUGS** stands for **HELP Understand by Giving Service**, and each month, the club chooses a new charity or organization they will support. Each charity is chosen by the beginning of the year, so they know each month in advance. The Cecilia Club has done this project for several years and advertises to the other county clubs to join in this effort any month. Because of this project, the Homemakers have donated 11 boxes of items to Springhaven Domestic Violence safe home, in addition to 2 homemade quilts, 6 pillowcase dresses for a mission trip to India, 32 quilts for the Linus project and snug as a bug, more than \$100 was donated to the animal shelter, along with several hundred pounds of dog and cat food, and more than \$170 has been donated to local schools.

The Stitchers Quilt Club hosted a Hosparus quilt community service day. This day was dedicated to making lap quilts for Hosparus patients. More than 30 Homemakers and community members attended to make lap quilts. Stitchers have also made more than 100 quilts for the Louisville homeless shelter, in addition to socks and scarves.



Larue County's Homemaker Extension club, South Fork, had a very productive year with 6 new members and 2 mailbox members. Their members chose to adopt Relay 4 Life as their major fundraiser. Last year members funded charities as well as Relay. The club raised funds through various activities: cake sales, selling opportunities on car cleaning kits at car shows, scholarship R. M. House Boosters for 4 Kids shirt sales, hat and sewing projects. In 2019, the members raised \$1900 for cancer. Special thanks to our Heart and Home leader, Doris Jean Holleran, for all her work in making this possible. All members worked and supported everything that was asked of them. The South Fork Club members have a heart for service to their community. Thus, they give from the heart to the "Home" town they love.

Larue County Homemakers helped increase open Floral Hall entries at the Larue County Fair from 77 in 2018 to 231 in 2019. Homemakers accepted entries, displayed them and assisted in judging the entries. A local family donated \$400 to the Floral Hall in memory of their mother who had been an active participant in the Floral Hall and had encouraged her children and grandchildren to participate as well. The donation was very helpful to the fair board.



Meade County Extension Homemakers had two major projects this year. The first is Meade County Recycle Program. Meade County Homemakers partnered with the Meade County Solid Waste and Recycle Center to bring recycle awareness to the community and especially to the children. Members taught recycling to the Meade County children. The Meade County Solid Waste and Recycle Center presented checks to the Meade County Homemakers in June 2018 for \$3,382.50 and in June of 2019 for \$3,375.00. This is reimbursement for the hours Homemakers spend for prep time and teaching. Members go into every elementary school in the county and present the program. The Homemakers have contests to peak the children's interest in recycling. Packets of information are given to each student. The money collected has been used to purchase supplies to enhance the program and for donations to many worthy needs such as Ovarian Cancer Research, Meade County scholarship and Back Pack for Hunger. The Meade County Community has been very responsive in helping to further this program in their homes and businesses.

The second Meade County Homemaker project is Back Pack for Hunger. Members partner with Feed America to help children whose only meal

eaten daily is at their school. The Back Pack program allows children to have food on weekends and holidays. All monies collected service the children in Meade County. It takes \$120 to supply a child food for a year. Based on their needs, there are 180+ children in Meade County who qualify for the Back Pack program.

Nelson County Extension Homemakers on August 23, 2018 had a High Tea sponsored by Humphrey Club. It was a fun, "Over the Top" Event. Sixty-eight attended.

On October 19, 2018, Nelson County Extension Homemakers held Soup Day for the whole community. One hundred forty people attended, and \$653 were collected for scholarships. Twenty-four crockpots of soup were enjoyed by all.



Washington County Extension Homemakers continued their annual Child Abuse Prevention Campaign for the 24th year. The campaign has expanded to include partnerships with Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, Washington County Public Library, Washington County Schools, Lincoln Trail District Health Department, and local churches.

Here are the components of the April 2019 campaign:

Art Poster Contests with St. D 6th, 7th, and 8th grades – winners were displayed in the library and posted to Facebook.

Pinwheel Coloring Sheet Contest with St. D Pre-K through 3rd grades (Homemakers also read an age appropriate book to them about preventing child abuse.)

Daily Facebook posts on Washington County Extension page that promoted nurturing, parenting, and child development, featuring content provided by Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky.

Newspaper articles were written throughout April.

Ribbons, banner and pinwheel garden downtown; the Public Library also planted their own pinwheel garden after partnering with Homemakers the previous year.

New banners were purchased for communities in the county, funded by a donation from the county attorney.

Wear Blue Day.

There were **Presentations of data and resources** from Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky and proclamation signings with Washington County Fiscal Court and Springfield City Council.

Blue Sunday Annual Day of Prayer-partnership with the Health Department and local churches to pray for abused children and distribute educational parenting resources form bluesunday.org

Pinwheel Dedication for Pat Sutton who was instrumental in developing this project for many years.

Washington County Extension Homemakers earned \$750 for participating in the Rural Price Project. Members used this money to promote education by offering a scholarship to a local student. The scholarship committee designed the applications, and then reviewed them to determine the winner. Fourteen excellent students applied for the \$750 scholarship.

