

Cornett certified "Facility Manager"

Tammy Cornett, a local farmer, was selected to attend the first training class for a new agriculture enterprise in Kentucky. She is the first woman to be certified as "Facility Manager" for Kentucky's new Mobile Processing Unit (MPU) for small livestock species.

The MPU will allow independent Kentucky farmers the opportunity to raise, process and market several species of small livestock. Poultry processed in the MPU will receive a seal from the Kentucky Department for Public Health and will be available for sale anywhere in the state of Kentucky. This is currently the only way a farmer can legally direct market their poultry.

The Mobile Processing Unit will allow farmers to take advantage of, as well as test, the small but growing niche market for pastured poultry, rabbits and aquaculture. While this

market will never threaten the conventional livestock industry, it may provide profitable marketing opportunities for small farmers and satisfy a growing number of consumers looking for farm fresh chicken.

"This was a very intense, information packed, two day hands on training at Kentucky State University Research Farm. The first day was spent learning all the requirements and regulations, and the second day processed 100 chickens. The chickens weighed about 5 pounds. Most of them were priced about \$15.00 each and were already sold to patrons of the Lexington Farmers Market. I think this MPU could be of great benefit to local farmers wanting to raise and sell chickens, shrimp and rabbits," Cornett said.

The MPU has taken almost five years and the cooperation of a lot of

people to actually get built. The MPU cost over \$80,000 and was primarily paid for with Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education grant money. The Heifer Project International, Kentucky Department of Agriculture and Department for Public Health, Kentucky State University, Partners for Family Farms and U.K. have all been involved in bringing this mobile unit to fruition.

The MPU has been granted an exemption from federal poultry inspection by the USDA Food Safety Inspection Service. This exemption is based on the fact that Kentucky's Department for Public Health has agreed to serve as the inspecting entity for the MPU. This is a pilot project for the Kentucky Department for Public Health and will be evaluated after the first year to determine if it is acceptable to continue this process.



GED graduates, from left: Charlie Alcorn, Andre Scott, CAP instructor Keith Gilbertson, Tommy Collins, and James Burton.

Inmates at Rockcastle Jail complete GEDs

"I feel much more capable of speaking out about education and want to do more for inmates involved with the work release program," stated James Burton, a state inmate at the Rockcastle Jail, completing a three year sentence for stolen property and also graduating with a GED, through the Christian Appalachian Project (CAP).

James Miller, jailer for Rockcastle County, was instrumental in first contacting CAP about having an instructor teach GED courses to the state inmates lodged there, as the inmates themselves had expressed an interest in completing their education. State inmates are provided various services and programs, such as recreation, church and education.

As the inmates proceeded into the courtroom, in traditional cap and gown, to a musically uplifting triumphant procession, their presence in front of the witness stand was under very positive circumstances, as opposed to previous visits to the bench.

"Working in the prison system in the past, I know what a boost it was to accomplish something, with the recidivism rate being so high, so if a GED can help turn a life around it's worth it," stated Linville Rose, of CAP Human Services.

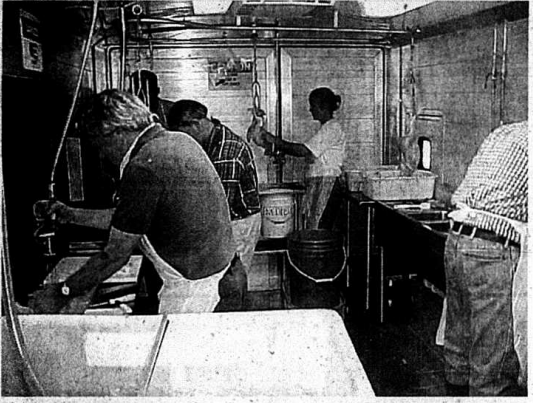
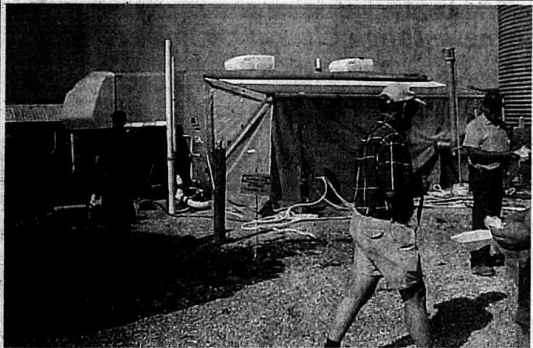
"When the GED was field tested among graduating high school seniors across the country, 40% of the students failed, so take pride in your success," continued Linville during the commencement address. Thirteen inmates received diplomas and some of those had completed their sentences or made parole prior to the actual graduation ceremony.

"It really gives a great sense of pride to these guys who accomplish this and I realize how important it is to them," said Keith Gilbertson, instructor for CAP's Adult Learning Program. Keith met and taught classes with the inmates each week.

"How long it takes them, depends on how hard they're willing to work to complete the course study," continued Keith, "and some of them commented that they appreciated the teacher's patience with the material."

The Christian Appalachian Project is an interdenominational, nonprofit Christian service organization,

committed to serving people in need in Appalachia by providing physical, spiritual and emotional support through education, crisis intervention and community development. With more than seventy programs and services, CAP's efforts reach people through the thirteen Appalachian states.



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The high priesthood of Jesus is such an important doctrine in the N.T. The writer affirms that he is merciful ch 2:17, and understands our infirmities and temptations. Our high priest is sinless, and gave his own life for our sins, ch 7:27. Now he is able to save us to the uttermost, of those who come to God by him, ch 7:25. Jesus is there in heaven, at the right hand of God, making intercession for his people. This is a most wonderful concept that Jesus is there for us, ready to help, understanding, compassionate, entreating God the Father for us. Have you come to grips with the responsibility of your sins? Only Jesus, can help.

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Dan McKibben-758-9316 ~ E-mail: Dan.McKibben@juno.com

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