

Agricultural News

By: Warden Alexander, FSA Director

Farm Service Agency Announces Important Program Update

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers that the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 extended the authorization of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (the 2008 Farm Bill) for many Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) commodity, disaster, and conservation programs through 2013. FSA administers these programs.

The extended programs include, among others: the Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment Program (DCP), the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE), and the Milk Income Loss Contract Program (MILC). FSA is preparing the following actions:

FSA will begin sign-ups for DCP and ACRE for the 2013 crops on Feb. 19, 2013. The DCP sign-up period will end on Aug. 2, 2013; the ACRE sign-up period will end on June 3, 2013.

The 2013 DCP and ACRE program provisions are unchanged from 2012, except that all eligible participants in 2013 may choose to enroll in either DCP or ACRE for the 2013 crop year. This means that eligible producers who were enrolled in ACRE in 2012 may elect to enroll in DCP in 2013 or may re-enroll in ACRE in 2013 (and vice versa).

All dairy producers’ MILC contracts are automatically extended to

Sept. 30, 2013. Eligible producers therefore do not need to re-enroll in MILC.

Specific details regarding certain modifications to MILC will be released soon.

FSA will provide producers with information on program requirements, updates and signups as the information becomes available. Any additional details will be posted on FSA’s website.

For more information on these and other FSA programs contact your local FSA Office or Service Center or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share

The Rockcastle County Conservation District is now accepting Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Applications on a continuous basis. This continual sign-up is designed to make the program more “landowner friendly” and help address the needs

of a landowner at any time during the year. As landowners plan conservation projects with the assistance of their local conservation district, they will be able to apply for financial assistance for those projects without having to wait for a designated sign up period.

Thousands of Kentucky landowners have received state assistance through the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share program. Known informally as state cost share, the program was created in 1994 and helps landowners implement best management practices to protect soil and water resources on their property. Since the program’s inception, more than \$129 million has been approved for use in implementing best management practices through more than 15,000 submitted applications. This money has assisted landowners in all of Kentucky’s 120 counties.

Many state cost share practices are offered through the state cost share program. Some examples are: agriculture and animal waste control facilities, streambank stabilization, animal waste utilization, vegetative filter strips, integrated crop management, pesticide containment, sinkhole protection, pasture and hay land forage quality and heavy use area protection. A list of all practices is available at <http://conservation.ky.gov/Pages/StateCostShare.aspx>.

The Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share program is funded through the Tobacco Settlement Funds and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. For the 2013 program year, \$2.5 million will be available to landowners across the state.

For more information on the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share program, visit the Rockcastle County Conservation District located at 153 Andover Lane, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456. You may also call the district at 606-256-2525 ext. 3.

Important program dates and Interest Rates

Farm Operating Loans-

Direct = 1.250%

Farm Ownership

Loans=3.125%

Limited Resource

Loans=5.000%

Farm Storage Loans-7

yr=1.125%, 10 yr=2.625%,

12 yr=1.875%

Commodity Loans-

1.125%

TTTPP-5.000%

Conservation District now accepting Cost Share Applications

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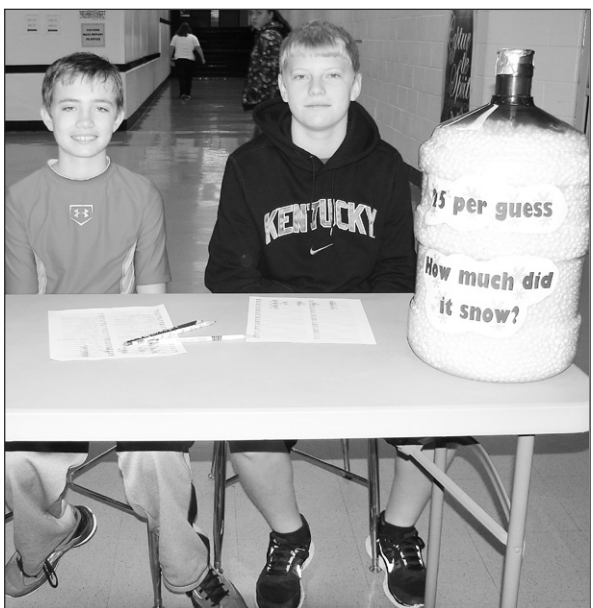
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Since they can’t get any snow, the RCMS Leadership Team members Caleb Ballinger and Lucas Jones helped out with the fundraiser for the Rockcastle Regional Hospital’s Hope Fund. Students can pay a quarter to take a guess at how many snowflakes are in the jar. The winner will have the joy of throwing pies and then the snow onto Mr. Hendrickson. Thanks Mr. H for being such a good sport for such a good cause.

Minds in the Middle

A new Box Tops race has begun and will continue through February 22nd.

Individual Student Reports from the K-Prep spring assessment are now available. Guardians should see Mrs. Cromer in the office to pick those up.

The PTSA is still taking orders for the RCMS: Rocket Style hoodies and tee shirts. You may get order forms from your homeroom teacher or from Mrs. Miller. Orders will be taken through February 6th.

Congratulations to the Governor’s Cup team for their exceptional performance at District competition. The team placed second in Quick Recall and second overall, but most importantly, won the Catherine C. Hume Sportsmanship Award. A special congratulations goes out to the following team members for placement in their individual subjects: Joy Frith - 2nd place Composition, 1st place Language Arts; Tessa Pickle – 3rd place Composition, 4th place Language Arts; Erin Thompson – 5th place; Composition, 4th place Science; Clare Beichler – 2nd place Science; Katie Vance – 4th place Arts and Humanities; Kagan Miller – 5th place Social Studies; and Travis Ross – 3rd place

Math. The team moves on to the regional competition where they will compete for the opportunity to go to State.

The 8th graders came out on top in the last attendance race. Mrs. Bishop’s Comets took first place, followed by Mrs. Gabbard’s Comets in second and Mr. Gentry’s Challengers in third.

The 4-H sewing project classes are being offered during the months of February and March. Students must register by Feb. 8th. Information and registration forms are in the main office.

Woodall named to Dean’s List

Rachel Beth Woodall of Brodhead, has been named to the Dean’s List for the 2012 Fall Semester at Georgetown College.

She is the daughter of Harold and Mary Woodall of Brodhead.

The Dean’s List honors undergraduate students who completed the semester with at least 12 credit hours and a 3.7 GPA, according to Rosemary Allen, Ph.D., Georgetown College’s Provost and Academic Dean.

GUN-KNIFE SHOW-SALE!

FEB. 2-3 • SATURDAY: 9-5 • SUNDAY: 9-4
SOMERSET • THE CENTER
2292 S. HWY. 27 • SOMERSET, KY

HANDGUN SUPER SALE!
FOR COMPLETE SHOW INFO, CALL (563) 927-8176

WHOLE SALE AMMO

HUGE SELECTION OF ANTIQUE ARMS!
SURVIVAL SUPPLIES!
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

“Yates”

(Cont. from front)

addiction. Currently UNITE contracts with 20 treatment facilities in Kentucky and other states. UNITE helped create two residential facilities in the Fifth District – the Chad’s Hope Teen Challenge Center in Clay County and the WestCare Hal Rogers Appalachian Recovery Center in Pike County.

- Assisting UNITE Coalitions and Kentucky Drug Courts in providing after-care for an addiction once a person leaves a treatment facility.

- Providing community education presentations about substance abuse, addiction and treatment.

“I am proud and excited to be a part of the UNITE team,” Yates said. “I have always admired and supported its mission and look forward to serving individuals in each of the 32 counties served by UNITE.”

Prior to joining UNITE Yates was employed by the Department for Community-Based Services in Rockcastle County. She began in 1999 as a social services worker and was promoted to family services office supervisor in January 2010.

In this position she was responsible for assigning cases and providing case supervision to investigate allegations of child abuse and neglect, provide on-going case management to children in foster care and families who were at high risk for abuse and/or neglect, attending court hearings, monitoring expenses of the department, and supervision and evaluation of employees.

Yates is a 1993 graduate of Rockcastle County High School. She obtained a Bachelor of Social Work and a Master of Arts in mental health counseling from Eastern Kentucky University.

Yates is married to Kentucky State Police Lt. John Yates, who works at the

London Post. The couple has two children, 10-year-old Laurel and 5-year-old Sawyer, both students at Brodhead Elementary School.

Anyone wishing more information about the UNITE Treatment program should visit www.operationunite.org.



Amy Yates

“Break”

(Cont. from front)

Pensol said that he originally thought about dismissing only the middle school and having the rest of the county’s schools in session. However, he said that he quickly rethought the situation and decided to dismiss all Rockcastle County schools.

“The middle school has a lot of students enrolled and we believed it would have caused too much confusion throughout the county if we only dismissed them,” Pensol said. “There were also a lot of students being absent due to sickness throughout our schools. So, I finally came to the conclusion that this would allow enough time for the water main break to be repaired and for the students to have a chance to get well.”

Pensol went on to say that they were lucky the water main break happened whe it did. “We are lucky that school had already been dismissed for the day and that the faculty was still in the building to catch it when it first happened,” Pensol said. “If the water main break had happened over the weekend, we would have been dealing with some serious flooding issues.”

Tenth Annual Books for Bikes



Rockcastle County Public Library

60 Ford Drive

Mount Vernon, KY 40456

606-256-2388

www.rockcastlelibrary.org

Registration January 7th - 31st

SKYWARN®

Weather Spotter Training

presented by
National Weather Service Jackson, KY and Rockcastle County Emergency Management

Tuesday, March 5th, 2013
6 pm – 8 pm EST

Rockcastle County Courthouse
205 East Main Street
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

SKYWARN® Weather Spotters are taught to identify and report significant events such as damaging winds, heavy rain, tornadoes, ice and snow, along with other events that have an impact on the safety of the community.

This class is open to the public, free of charge, and no registration is required.

Go to www.crh.noaa.gov/jkl/?n=spotter for more information about SKYWARN®.