

## Extension Agents Host Country Kitchen for Legislators

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FRANKFORT, Ky. (April 4, 2014) – The Kentucky Association of County Agricultural Agents hosted its annual Country Kitchen appreciation luncheon for legislators and their staff in March. One hundred twenty-five people attended the luncheon, which featured foods grown or processed in Kentucky. An additional 90 meals were delivered to the Kentucky State Capitol for those in committee or session meetings. The luncheon was hosted at Frankfort’s Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4075.

Agriculture and Horticulture Extension Agents from across Kentucky brought in food, cooked, served, and provided shuttle service to and from the Capitol during the luncheon. But the event was not just about eating. “The lunch also gives Extension agents the opportunity to meet with their legislators in a relaxed atmosphere,” said KACAA President and Ballard County Agriculture Agent Tom Miller.

Lincoln County Agriculture Agent Dan Grigson said this event has been hosted by agents since the mid-1980s. Agents provide gift bags containing information about Extension’s reach across Kentucky’s communities and donated items like pancake mix made from Kentucky grown wheat. This information, the time spent visiting, and the Kentucky-produced foods help show legislators the work and impact of University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service while showcasing food production in Kentucky.

“I appreciate the legislators’ continued support of Extension programs and their willingness to meet with us,” said Drew Graham, Director of Advancement and Government Affairs for the University of Kentucky.

Event chairman and Fayette County Agriculture Agent Nick Carter added, “Thank you to Kentucky’s legislators and their staff for attending, for supporting Extension, and allowing us this opportunity to show how very important agriculture is to Kentucky.”

Carter and KACAA wish to thank members of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4075 in Frankfort for providing the event location and assisting with preparations.