



Cooperative Extension Service

McCracken County
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Reflections from President Diane Shrewsberry...

Christmas 1959

Snow was on the ground that cold, gray sky afternoon. More was threatening to fall and it was looking a bit more like Christmas every day. I as an 8 year old was becoming more and more concerned that we, our family, had NO Christmas tree. My school mates were bragging about the number of ornaments and icicles that were hanging on their tree. I was getting tired of keeping my mouth shut. I asked my mom daily about this "situation" as the time for Santa drew nearer with each passing day. "I know, I know!" She would say. "But I'm just too busy with cooking to look for one today, and your dad isn't going to get home from milking the cows till dark." Days continued to pass. I'd jump off the school bus, just sure to find a lovely cedar tree gracing our living room waiting for me to load the icicles on it! No dice. The Saturday prior to Christmas arrived, cold and snowy again. We had NO TREE for the Bondurant family. I was done with all this waiting around, so I took matters into my own hands. I snuck to the coat closet, donned a heavy coat, hat and gloves, "Mom, going out to play," I shouted and hustled to the kitchen to grab a saw bladed knife. Off I went to the fields. Searching for that perfect cedar. And there it was. Just gracing a fence row, awaiting me to save it from the new falling snow!! Looking back it may have been 4 feet tall but in my mind it was a giant! Yes, I did cut that cedar tree with a saw bladed knife! If mom could dig a hole for a mail box with a table spoon, then I could cut down a tree!! I remember dragging that thing over corn stubbles, over another fence and home we went. I was so proud of myself as I had relieved my parents of a chore! If mom was dismayed, she said nothing. That poor scraggly tree lost many of it's needles on our journey across the field, but once I loaded it's somewhat bare branches with ornaments, popcorn, and loads of those shiny icicles, it stood proud and tall in it's milk bucket of water.

Sometimes the best Christmases are the most humble, as were the beginnings of the celebration of Christmas itself.

PEACH HOLIDAY HAM



1 ham, fully cooked

Score fat on ham in diamond pattern

Place ham in a heavy roasting pan

Stud the ham with whole cloves.

Mix 1 cup of peach preserves with 1 cup peach nectar, 1 Tablespoon of grainy mustard, 1/4 tea-spoon ground cloves.

Pour over the ham and roast until ham registers 140*, basting every 15 minutes. Shield with foil if needed to prevent burning.

Allow to stand 10 minutes prior to slicing.





Tis the season of giving.....



The food pantry and personal care items boxes can always use donations.

- A few things to remember are:
- Non perishable food items only
 - You can divide food packages with multiple that are individually wrapped
 - **Make sure to place personal care items (toothpaste, combs, soaps, etc.) in the personal care items box**

Need a gift.....

RADA Cutlery would be a nice gift!

If you would like to order RADA Cutlery and have it mailed right to your door, then click the link below to have access to the entire catalog.

This link has been personalized just for McCracken County Homemakers to have online sales and still receive the profit while providing you with the convenience of ordering from home.

Anyone can use the link to purchase merchandise and have it mailed directly to their home. Individual cutlery pieces or gift sets are available.

Shop today by using our link. Just go to:

<https://bit.ly/3eua1n3>



The McCracken County Extension Homemakers were featured in the November Library Display.

A big thank you to all of those that contributed to the display and made it spectacular!



Meet Mary Vannerson!

Mary is an active member of McCracken Homemakers and a member of the Happy Club. She is 62 years old and despite having Spina Bifida she is still very active.

She enjoys crafts, volunteers at Family Service Society 3-4 days a week and is currently helping with Santa for Seniors. Mary also volunteers for the Spina Bifida organization of Kentucky and is a champion in supporting volunteer groups.

Recently Mary and her sister organized and served all the meals sold at the Bazaar. Then donated all the money back to homemakers.



NEED SOME HELP WITH SMARTPHONES OR TABLETS?

Emily Steele, a librarian from the McCracken County will be teaching a class on Smartphones and Tablets on December 14th at 10am at the extension office.

In this class, we'll talk about apps and device settings that will make using your phone or tablet easier. You can bring your own device.

Take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about using smartphones and tablets and to answer any questions you may have.



A note from Sue Sutton, Management and Safety chair for the program of work:

I just want to alert members to be extra careful with personal information right now. There are so many scams out there and all trying to steal your identity. Be extra careful of sites claiming to be Amazon or others wanting you to click on something that will take you to a site that is meant to fool you into giving them information. Never click on a text or email that is unexpected. Amazon also says it will never send emails with links to an IP address which is a string of numbers. Be safe and enjoy Christmas with family and friends!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Adult Sewing - Tuesdays in December @ 9 - 12 am

Dec. 1 & 15 Needlework Club, 10 am

Dec. 1 & 15 Knitting & Crochet Club, 1 pm

Dec. 7 Cultural Arts Project Day (pre-registration required) 10 am

Dec. 8 Concord Club, 10 am

Dec. 12 Quilt Club, 10 am

Dec. 13 Golden Days, 10 am

Dec. 14 Smartphones and Tablets Class, 10:00 am Open to Public

Dec. 21 Scrapbook Club, 9:00 am

OFFICE CLOSED December 24 - January 2nd

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Questions?

Call 270-554-9520 or email
Kelly at kelly.alsip@uky.edu
For more information

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Kelly Alsip

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Agent for Family & Consumer Sciences

Snowy weather? Schools closed?

Then we may not be having classes.
Our policy is that if McCracken County schools are closed due to weather, we cancel our classes/meetings.