

MAY

COLLEGE MONTHLY



Message from the Dean



In early May, we usually think of the Kentucky Derby and UK graduation, but this week is very different. In just a few days, our seniors will be graduating into a world that is unlike anything most of us have ever experienced. While we won't be able to be with them in person to offer our heartfelt congratulations, we know that through their hard work and the dedication of our exemplary teaching units, they are ready. They will meet and exceed the challenges of today. They are ready to bring their skills, enthusiasm and passion to the world.

In the college, people and relationships are very important. Because of these foundational values, we are a special family. Special for the solutions we develop. Special for the impact we make. And special for the people who call this place home. We've pulled together to face the unprecedented challenges of having to interact in a largely virtual environment, while still providing support, guidance and comfort to our students, stakeholders and colleagues.

The college's alumni office is spearheading an effort to send packages to each of our graduates with gifts, notes, cards and more to congratulate them on their accomplishments and to welcome them to the ranks of our amazing alumni. These packages should begin arriving this week. Departments are also planning creative virtual celebratory/congratulation activities for their graduating students.

Within the past few weeks, 93 faculty and staff volunteers throughout the college and Cooperative Extension reached out to each one of our undergraduate students to see how they were doing from a personal and academic perspective. We are also reaching out to our graduate students to check on them.

Additionally, several faculty members have stepped up to offer additional courses for

the summer session to allow greater access for our students. We don't yet know what the fall semester will look like and we face financial uncertainties. But one thing is sure, we will be here to offer our students the best education possible whether that's online, in the classroom or somewhere in between.

Barnhart Fund for Excellence awards

The Barnhart Fund for Excellence endowment was created in honor of Charles Barnhart, who was dean from 1969-1988. Each year, the fund provides support for special projects led by CAFE faculty and staff, both on campus and throughout the state. This year, 36 applications were submitted, and 11 projects received funding. A list of the funded projects is available [here](#).



Kentucky Small Business Development Center, Cooperative Extension team to advise businesses through pandemic

If there's a direct pipeline in Kentucky's counties for the transmission of research-based, pertinent information to the people who need it, it's Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. Recognizing the ties extension agents have to their communities, the Kentucky Small Business Development Center is working closely with county extension offices during the pandemic crisis to relay critical information to small businesses around the state.

[Read the article to learn more](#)



Farm Stand

The UK organic farm operates a farm stand for the UK community each Thursday from 4-6 p.m. at the Horticulture Research Farm, 4321 Emmert Farm Lane. Purchase produce including vegetables, fruits, herbs and plants. Until May 14, the Farm Stand is accepting pre-orders online at <https://uk-csa.firebaseio.com>. Pre-payment is available by phone on Wednesday and Thursday from 12-1 p.m. at 859-552-4165.

Beginning May 21, the Farm Stand will be open for walk-ups from 4-6 p.m. at both the Horticulture Research Farm and the Orange Parking Lot by the E.S. Good Barn.

The Farm Stand is run in conjunction with the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, which is an educational and outreach project of the sustainable agriculture undergraduate degree program. All financial proceeds from the sale of produce support the production of food during the growing season and student educational activities of the sustainable agriculture degree program. Cash, check, or card are accepted. Questions? Email uk.csa@uky.edu.

[Place farm stand pre-orders](#)



CULTIVATING INCLUSION SERIES

College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Office of Diversity

Cultivating Inclusion Series - Cultivating Change

The University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food, & Environment Office of Diversity will host a series entitled, Cultivating Inclusion. This lunch and learn series serves to provide an informal, safe environment for faculty, staff and students to engage in conversations related to diversity and inclusion while fostering an appreciation of inclusivity within the college. The next event is **Thursday, May 14 at Noon**.

You're invited to join the last session of the Cultivating Inclusion Series. This session will highlight Urban Extension and the innovative efforts happening within the Extension Service in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

[Register for the Zoom presentation](#)



From the Ground Up's weekly podcast is on all things gardening. The show features CAFE's communications specialist Jeff Franklin and horticulture agents from central Kentucky. It airs each week on WUKY. Episodes can be found at <https://news.ca.uky.edu/audio>

[Listen to the latest episode](#)

HEAR

SIGHT

SMELL

TASTE

TOUCH

Reward Systems

- Activates reward systems in the brain
- Lights up the most with highly palatable foods
- Overrides regular appetite control

de Macedo et al., *Adv Pharmacol Sci*, 2016

University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Family and Consumer Sciences
Building strong families. Building Kentucky. It starts with us.

Managing Stress Eating

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

Family and Consumer Sciences Webinars

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension offers webinars addressing topics relevant to the coronavirus and to help families. Topics include food preparation, healthy eating, physical activity, child development, financial management and stress. The sessions are conducted via Zoom and shared on Facebook Live. On average, the webinars engage 150 participants live and the social media recordings reach ranges from 2,000 to more than 5,000.



UK to host Virtual Wheat Field Day

In this time of social distancing and much uncertainty, CAFE scientists are using innovative ways to get producers the information they need to grow high-quality crops. As a result, members of the UK Wheat Science Group have turned their annual Wheat Field Day into a virtual experience this year. The direct link to the meeting, other ways to participate and additional information about the field day are available at <https://wheatsscience.ca.uky.edu>.

[Read more about this initiative](#)

KY Extension Diversity Inclusion Network

KICKOFF MEETING

May 21, 2020 | 10 AM - 11 AM EST

The Kentucky Extension Diversity and Inclusion Network (KEDIN) was established to serve and support Extension professionals with diverse backgrounds as they work to meet the needs of Extension clientele throughout the Commonwealth. We invite both KSU and UK Extension Professionals to join us as we reconvene with a kickoff meeting.

We are happy to have Extension Administration, HR representatives from both institutions, and YOU join us via Zoom by registering today!



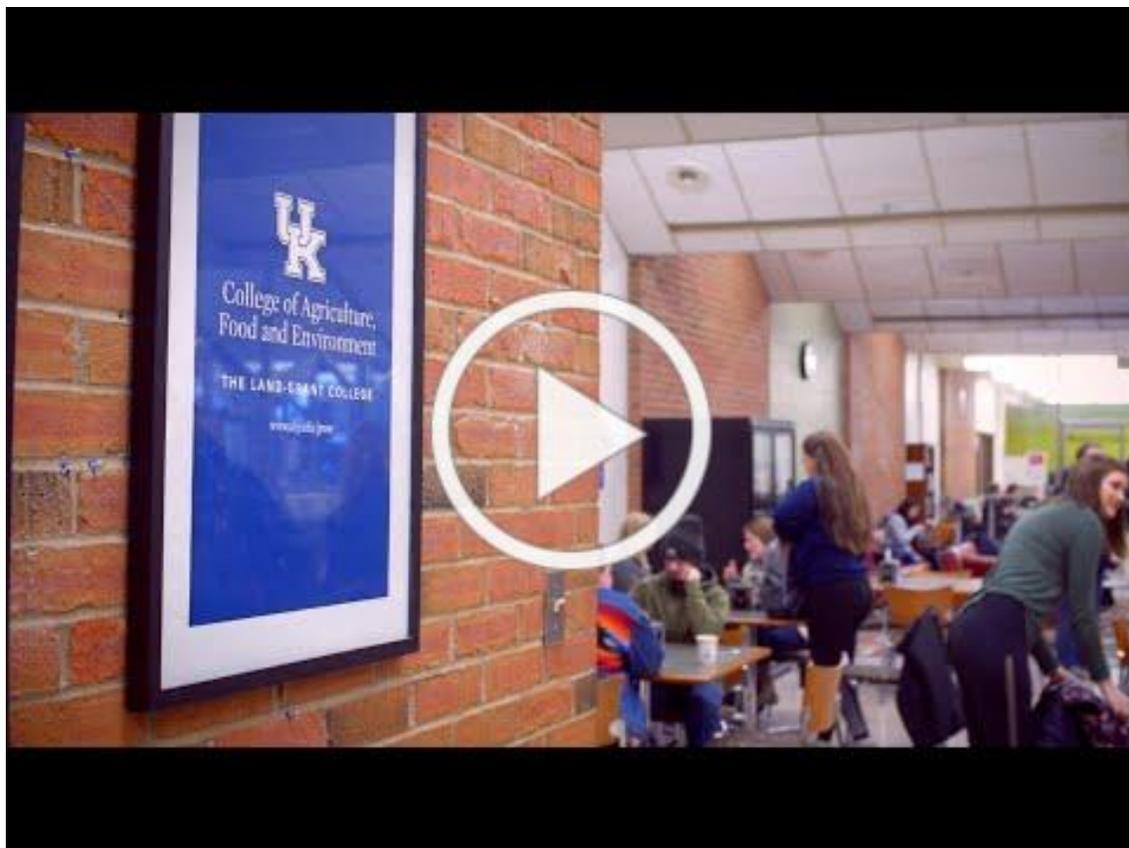
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[Register online here](#)

HEALTHY AT HOME

Navigating COVID-19 with Cooperative Extension

Cooperative Extension experts share tips to keep you healthy at home in a weekly newsletter. Check out some of these great ideas. [Read More.](#)



[View the new college homepage](#)

Spotlight

Andrea Higdon

Emergency Management System Director

We asked Andrea to share a little about her passions, her career path and what led her to us.

Tell us about your background and what led you to your current role at UK?

Although I grew up in the Chicagoland area, agriculture and Kentucky have always been a big part of my life. My grandparents had a farm where they raised and trained harness horses in Springfield, KY. When school dismissed each spring, I would travel south to spend all summer working on their farm. I have fond memories of harness racing at county fairs and major tracks across Kentucky. The bluegrass was in my blood and there was no question where I would attend college – of course it would be the University of Kentucky. I received my bachelor's degree in animal science and worked on a horse boarding, beef cattle, and tobacco farm for many years. Eventually, I came back to the College of Agriculture – this time as a program coordinator for an agroterrorism preparedness grant. I also pursued a master's degree in safety, security, and emergency management, which led to my position I have today.



What is your favorite thing about working in CAFE?

My favorite thing about working in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is the people. Over the years, I've developed strong relationships with colleagues in the college. One thing we all have in common is a passion to help people, protect agriculture, and strive for excellence in all we do. Working with a strong network of passionate professionals has led to innovations in how we help prepare for threats and hazards in our college and the food and agriculture sector. No two days are ever the same - I love my job!

What is one thing about yourself that might surprise people?

When I'm not working, I love spending time with my husband and my daughter, who share my passion for travel. Exploring new places opens the mind to experiences and challenges that make me a better person. Some of the places I've been fortunate to explore include Thailand, Peru, Iceland, and many countries in Europe.

Calendar of Events

May 4-8

Finals Week

May 8

CAFE Lunch + Learn: Stress Less with Mindfulness

May 10-16

National Women's Health Week

May 12

Summer Term begins

Helpful Links

[Giving](#)

[College Weekly for Faculty & Staff](#)

[College Weekly for Students](#)

[The Ag Magazine](#)

[The Ambassador](#)

[Contact Us](#)

May 12

Virtual Wheat Field Day

May 25

Memorial Day

Thursdays

UK CSA Farm Stand; pre-order required



Read: The Ambassador

