



# MEADE COUNTY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MARCH 2011

## Second Annual Home-Garden Expo Scheduled March 26

If you're not ready for spring, you will be after attending this year's Meade County Home & Garden Expo.

The second annual expo will take place from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, at the Farm Bureau Community Center at the Meade County Fairgrounds.

Admission will be free.

The expo will feature:

◆ Exhibits by dozens of businesses offering everything from carpeting and flooring to outdoor furniture to home-improvement loans.

◆ Free seminars on garden and home topics.

◆ Information displays about the work of the two organizations that organize the event – the Meade County Cooperative Extension Service and the Meade County Area Chamber of Commerce.

"We're looking forward to an exciting show," says Russ Powell, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce.



### MEADE COUNTY HOME & GARDEN EXPO

"Spring is the season for renewal and fresh starts, and the expo will provide visitors lots of ideas about how to improve, refresh or remodel their homes, lawns, and gardens."

One of the highlights of the expo will be the free seminars on gardening and home topics that will take place throughout the day, says Andy Mills, Meade County extension agent for agriculture and natural resources.

Here's the schedule:

◆ 9 a.m. – *Attracting Hummingbirds*, presented by Dr. Thomas Barnes, University of Kentucky wildlife specialist.

◆ 9:45 a.m. – *Growing Record-Size Pumpkins & Watermelons*, presented by Frank Mudd, a Meade Countian who holds awards for growing Kentucky's largest pumpkins and watermelons.

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## Members Will Meet Students March 17 At Annual 'Manners Luncheon'

Sixth-grade students from Battletown and Payneville elementary schools will be showing off their manners at this month's membership luncheon of the Meade County Area Chamber of Commerce.

This will be the 16th year for the annual "manners luncheon" organized by the Meade County Cooperative Extension Service, the Meade County Extension Homemakers, and the Chamber of Commerce.

"Our members appreciate the opportunity every year to meet some of the young people who will be the future of Meade County," says Russ

Powell, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce.



"The fact that this will be the 16th year for the luncheon speaks positively for the strong ties between the organizations that organize the event and their cooperative spirits," he says.

At the luncheon, Powell says, students who attend will meet members of the community and show off the social and table-manners skills they learned during training provided by Jennifer Bridge, family and consumer

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## Second Annual Home-Garden Expo ...

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◆ 10:30 a.m. – *Dealing With Home-Invading Insects*, presented by Dr. Ric Bessin, University of Kentucky entomologist.

◆ 11:15 a.m. – *Butterfly Gardening*, presented by Mills.

◆ Noon – *Cooking with Herbs*, presented by Jennifer Bridge, Meade County's extension agent for family and consumer sciences, and Loretta Skaggs, the extension service's food and nutrition educator.

Information booths at the expo will include:

◆ Meade County 4-H, which will provide information about its entomology program – along with displaying some of the insects that are studied – and its other programs for young people.

◆ Meade County Master Gardeners, whose members will be on hand to explain the program and answer gardening questions.

◆ Meade County Farmers' Market, where prospective vendors can learn how to participate in this season's twice-weekly markets and visitors can learn the advantages of locally grown and produced prod-

ucts.

◆ Meade County Homemakers, where members will sell their organization's cookbooks, commemorative afghans, and other items.

◆ Meade County Family & Consumer Sciences, where people can learn how to make their own home-cleaning products and how to improve indoor air quality.

◆ Meade County Area Chamber of Commerce, where people can get information about memberships for businesses, organizations, and individuals.

◆ Meade County Tourism, where people can sign up to receive information about local events.

Throughout the day, members of the Meade County Homemakers will operate a concession stand.

Working on the project along with Bridge, Mills, and Powell are Carole Goodwin, Meade County extension agent for 4-H; Jeannie Vowels, administrative assistant for the Chamber of Commerce; and Shirley Beavin, Boyd and Dot Emmert, and Bruce Howard, all members of the Meade County Extension Council, which advises the extension service on programming.

## Members Will Meet Students ...

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sciences extension agent.

"This is an event the students look forward to and thoroughly enjoy, so I hope there will be the usual enthusiastic turnout by Chamber of Commerce members," Bridge says.

The luncheon will begin at noon on Thursday, March 17, and take place at the extension service's office at 1041 Old Ekron Road in Brandenburg.

It will have a St. Patrick's Day theme, according to Bridge.

Members of the extension homemakers will cater the meal.

On the menu are chicken cordon bleu, green beans, rice pilaf, steamed carrots, garden salad, and dessert.

The informal program will include an opportunity for Chamber of Commerce members to introduce themselves to their young guests and a brief video about the students and their schools.

Members who plan to attend should make their

reservations by noon Wednesday, March 16, either by telephone to 270-422-3626 or by email to [rpowell@meadekychamber.org](mailto:rpowell@meadekychamber.org).

Cost of the luncheon is \$8 per person.

There will be a donation box at the registration desk for those who wish to help underwrite the cost of the students' lunches, according to Powell and Bridge.

In the past, they say that cost had been paid by the Meade County Optimist Club, which has disbanded since last year's luncheon.

## Some Postage Rates Go Up April 17

The bad news: Postage rates are going up April 17

The good news: The basic 44-cent rate for first-class mail stays the same.

Although the 44-cent price of a first-class stamp won't change, heavier letters will cost more. The basic rate covers the first ounce, and the price for each extra ounce will rise from 17 cents to 20 cents.

And, post cards will rise by a penny to 29 cents.

## ***Doe Run Federal Credit Union Named March's Member Of Month***

Doe Run Federal Credit Union is the Meade County Area Chamber of Commerce's Member for the Month for March.

The credit union was selected because of its importance to the economy of Meade County; its involvement in and support of the work of the Chamber of Commerce; and its success during the course of its rebranding and expansion.

"Doe Run Federal Credit Union's success is a tribute to the vision and skill of its leadership and staff," says Kelly Roberts, president of the Chamber of Commerce.

"Their willingness to move into a larger financial arena has benefited their members and demonstrated the vigor of Meade County's economy.

"We appreciate what they do for our community and for the Chamber of Commerce."

The credit union traces its roots to 1979, when it was organized to serve employees of Olin Corporation's Brandenburg plant, which was acquired by Arch Chemicals Inc. in 1999.

Until 2009, it was located on the plant's grounds and open only to employees as a deposit-and-loan credit union.

In 2009, Doe Run changed its status to be a public financial insti-



**Doe Run Federal Credit Union is staff by, from left, Manager Tammy Weick, Georgie Brown, Tonya Hardesty, and Kathy Morgan.**

tion and relocated to a newly built office at 740 High Street, which is opposite Brandenburg City Hall.

Since then, according to Manager Tammy Weick, the credit union has expanded its service to offer checking accounts, debit cards, and online banking, as well as expanded its hours and built a web site.

What's more, she says, the credit union has tripled its membership and grown its assets from \$6.2 million to nearly \$8 million.

"In every way, we've exceeded our expectations," she says.

The keys to that success, she says, are:

◆ "Friendly service and very competitive loan rates, which make our customers our best advertisers."

◆ "Knowing who our members are when they either come in or go through our drive-through window."

◆ "Hours that are member friendly," noting that the credit union opens at 7 a.m. on weekdays.

Members of the credit union's staff along with Weick are Georgie Brown, Tonya Hardesty, and Kathy Morgan.

Weick reports to the credit union's board of directors, which is chaired by Ronnie Joyner. Other members are Mary Beth Garretson, Lisa Cucino, Angie Myers, Richard Neel, Gary Halbert, and Dennis Farmer.

Its operating hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday.

Doe Run's telephone number is 270-422-7745, and it's online at [www.doerunfcu.com](http://www.doerunfcu.com).

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## Applications Available For Chamber's Annual MCHS Scholarship

Applications are available for the annual scholarship given to a high school senior by the Meade County Area Chamber of Commerce to encourage and promote higher education as a key ingredient in business and community leadership.

The \$750 award is funded by a variety of projects and events undertaken by members of the organization.

The name of this year's recipient will be announced in May at the annual honors night assembly at Meade County High School.

The winner will be selected on the basis of:

- ◆ General school record.
- ◆ Work activities.
- ◆ School activities.
- ◆ Community activities.

◆ An essay of between 350 and 500 words that responds to this question: What role should the Meade County Area Chamber of Commerce and similar community organizations play in building the future

of Meade County?

Students who apply for the scholarship must:

- ◆ Be graduating seniors from MCHS.
- ◆ Be residents of Meade County.
- ◆ Intend to enroll as a full-time student in a degree-seeking program in an accredited public or private college, community college, university, or vocational-technical program.
- ◆ Have a grade-point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better.
- ◆ Meet the Thursday, April 14, deadline for submitting a complete application to the high school's counseling office.

Application forms are available:

- ◆ At the counseling office at the high school.
- ◆ At the Chamber of Commerce office at 79 Broadway in Brandenburg.
- ◆ From Russ Powell, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, by calling 270-422-3626 or emailing [rpowell@meadekychamber.org](mailto:rpowell@meadekychamber.org).