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Humans aren't the only ones that suffer from the heat of summer. Farm animals feel the heat, too. With summer temperatures already upon us, it's time to think about ways to know when your livestock may be in dan-

Help Livestock Beat The Heat

ger from the heat and what to do to reduce their plight.

The University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center provides warnings of the potential danger to livestock. Livestock become uncomfortable when the heat index reaches about 90 degrees. The heat index is a combination of air temperature and humidity and is used to describe how it feels outside.

The Agricultural Weather Center regularly monitors heat indices across the state and provides an index of its own – the Livestock Heat Stress Index – to help producers know when heat stress could create a problem for their animals. The county-by-county index indicates three levels of heat stress: no stress, danger stress and

emergency stress.

Periods of heat stress call for livestock producers to be vigilant in making sure their animals are adequately prepared. One of the most important things producers can do is provide cool, clean drinking water. Providing an adequate source of drinking water helps to keep animals' internal body temperatures within normal limits. Above-ground water lines need to be shaded so they do not can act as solar water heaters and make the water too hot to drink.

It is also important for animals to have shade and for buildings to be as open as possible for adequate ventilation. Sprinkler systems that periodically spray a cool mist on the animals can also be beneficial.

It is best to avoid working animals during periods of heat stress. Producers should also avoid transporting livestock during high levels of heat stress. When livestock must be transported, haul fewer animals per load. Planning trips so the animals can be loaded immediately before leaving and unloaded quickly upon arrival can likewise help minimize the risk.

Producers who want to keep up-to-date with the Livestock Heat Stress Index can access it by typing in your zip code in the left column on the Agricultural Weather Center's website <http://weather.uky.edu> or go

to the Estill County Cooperative Extension Service's website <http://estill.ca.uky.edu/> and click on the weather link and then scroll down the page to the last row in the table.

For more information, contact the Estill County Extension office at 723-4557.

Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

ESTILL COUNTY FAIR SHOWCASES AGRICULTURE

The Estill County Fair is June 28 through July 5 at the Estill County fairgrounds on South Irvine Road. Horse Shows will be July 11 and 12. Many events are planned for all ages to showcase agriculture in our community. You can see sheep, goats, poultry, and cattle shows as well as compete for the best tomato, cabbage head, or garden display to name a few classes. If you are interested in participating or being a spectator, all the guidelines and details are listed in the 2014 catalog available at the Extension Office or information is online at <http://estill.ca.uky.edu/>. Come join in the fun!

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**Wanderings
from the
Woods
& Water**
by Jay
Bicknell
WetStoneKennels@yahoo.com



The Tale of Two Labs

I will start with Teal; she was a 60 pound Labrador retriever. Teal's pedigree was nothing great. Her mom and dad were just plain hunting dogs. She had no champions in her background. Teal might have not had a champion in her pedigree, but she had the heart of a champion.

In order to become a good duck dog, it takes a lot of hard work on the dog's part. Teal loved to train. She was focused like a laser when she was training. Teal gave it 110% in every training session. She had the fire in her belly drive.

Teal was a great duck dog. She lived to do her job, retrieve game birds! When she saw the shotgun, she was ready to go to work. It didn't matter if it was a hot September dove hunt or a cold January duck hunt. It was never too cold or too hot. Her job was hunting and she was good at her job.

I had Teal for 12 years. She was the best dog I have ever owned. I doubt I will ever have another dog as great as Teal. The day she died, I cried like a baby. She has been gone for awhile and I still miss my ole girl.

Now for Tank, he was a big male Labrador. His pedigree was AWESOME! His pedigree was made up of champions. I had him flown in from Washington State when he was a puppy.

I paid a lot for Tank! When I picked him up at the airport he was barking his head off . . . and never stopped.

Tank was driven to drive me crazy. He barked all the time. He barked at 3:00 in the morning and while trying to train. He really didn't care much for doing the work to become a great retriever. He was really untrainable.

Tank was NOT a great duck dog! He was so out of control it was hard to hunt him. He would bark while hunting. He was miserable to hunt with!

I had Tank for about four years, and when I gave him away I had huge smile on my face! Then the guy I gave him to brought him back . . . and I had a huge frown on my face! I finally give him away to a person who kept him. 'Smile' back on my face.

You're probably wondering where I am going with this! I guess this column is for all the new graduates.

A big fancy degree on the wall doesn't bring in the dollars. It's hard work that pays the bills. It doesn't matter where you come from. What matters is that you have the heart of a champion and you stay in God's will. Work hard, stay focused, keep Jesus number #1, and you will be a champion. God Bless all the new graduates!

Until next week, get out and enjoy God's creation!

Coca-Cola Talent Classic

Preliminaries will be held again this year at the Estill County Fair on Thursday, July 3, 2014. Winners in this contest will go on to perform at the Kentucky State Fair Coca-Cola Talent Classic. Categories include: Vocal Solo-Female, Vocal Solo-Male, Vocal-Group, Instrumental-Solo, Instrumental-Group. Entry fee is \$15. Contestants must be between 13-21 years of age by August 1, 2014. Prize money will be paid for the top three overall winners as follows: 1st Place-\$100; 2nd Place-\$75 and 3rd Place-\$50.

Pre-registration is required. Applications and brochures are available at the Estill County Extension Office (76 Golden Court).

For more information contact Tammy Cole, (Chair) at 723-4326.

ESTILL COUNTY SCHOOLS REGISTRATION/ SCREENING FOR PRESCHOOL

**Tuesday, July 1st
2:00 to 6:00 PM**

**At the South Irvine P-K Center
1000 South Irvine Road
Irvine, KY 40336**

**CALL Genia McKinney, Family Service Specialist
at South Irvine P-K Center at 726-3078
TO SCHEDULE A SCREENING APPOINTMENT**

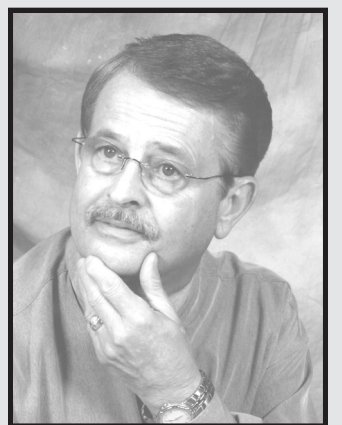
Preschool Qualification Guidelines:

- Children who turn four years old by October 1st and meet income requirements or have a delay or disability
- Children who turn three years old by October 1st and have a delay or disability or meet Head Start requirements
- Children may attend on a tuition basis, depending upon enrollment numbers of income-eligible students. Tuition fee is \$180 per month for 10 months. This is offered on a first-come, first-served basis for four year old children.

Please bring the following documents with your child to register:

- Child's Certified Birth Certificate (Vital Statistics form - not a hospital certificate)
- Proof of Family Income (For eligibility purposes): Check Stub, Tax Forms, Statement from Employer, SSI Award Letter, Food Stamp Letter, Child Care Subsidy Form, statement from person providing room and board
- Appropriate Proof of Address for eligibility purposes (utility bill, insurance bill, lease agreement, etc.)
- Copy of an up to date immunization certificate recorded on a Kentucky form only
- Copy of a school entry physical form that includes blood pressure, Hemoglobin count, and Lead Screening/test
- Copy of an eye exam completed by an Optometrist or Ophthalmologist
- Copy of a school entry dental exam performed by a licensed dental professional
- Medical Insurance Card
- Copy of legal guardianship, (if not biological parent)
- Court documents pertaining to your child, if applicable

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John Cox

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After Hours: Call Bill (723-3305) or Ricky (723-2773)

See Ricky, Bill, Earl, or Todd at

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Monday - Friday, 8am-5pm; Saturday, 8am to Noon

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