

# Estill County Helps Nebraska Flood Victims

from Eric Baker, Estill County UK Extension

Nebraska grain farmers and livestock producers are still recovering from March flooding that left the agriculture community with over a billion dollars of damage. Kentucky farmers understand what they're going through, and they are rose to the occasion to send aid through the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, local county Cattlemen Associations, and other agriculture agencies.

Tierney Storage of Frankfort donated warehouse space, tractor, and a forklift. Peaks Mill Christian Church contributed \$2,000, and the Franklin County Conservation Office let Extension use their plastic

wrapper and donated plastic to shrink wrap the hay bales. Franklin County 4-H and FFA helped to inventory all contributions.

Trucks rolled out of Frankfort April 26th on the 12- to 14-hour drive to Nance County, Nebraska. Kentucky sent eleven semi loads of hay and a large box truck full of fencing and various relief supplies.

Estill County contributed to the relief effort which was coordinated by the Estill County Cattlemen's Association, Estill County Cooperative Extension, and Estill County FFA Chapter. The Estill County Fair Association were gracious to let us use their livestock pavilion to collect donations April 23rd. Estill County

Cattlemen's Association member Gary McKinney volunteered to haul the donations to Frankfort in his covered cattle trailer.

After all donations were collected, Estill County farmers and friends donated 20 rolls of barbwire, 200 steel t-posts, feed, tarps, cleaning supplies, baby diapers, mops, buckets, non-perishable food, water, and various other relief items. We estimate collected donations exceeded \$3,500 in value.

We appreciate everyone who helped in any way with this relief effort. Our community showed kindness and generosity toward Nebraska farm families. Great effort Estill County!



Estill County volunteers who helped send supplies to Nebraska. Left to right, lower row: Madison McKinney, Cheyenne Lamb, Adam McKinney, Eric Baker, Lynn Miller, Summer Evans, James Blevins, Hannah Dixon. Pictured in the trailer: Gary McKinney, David Newton, Cindy Callahan, Danny Callahan, and Gary McKinney.



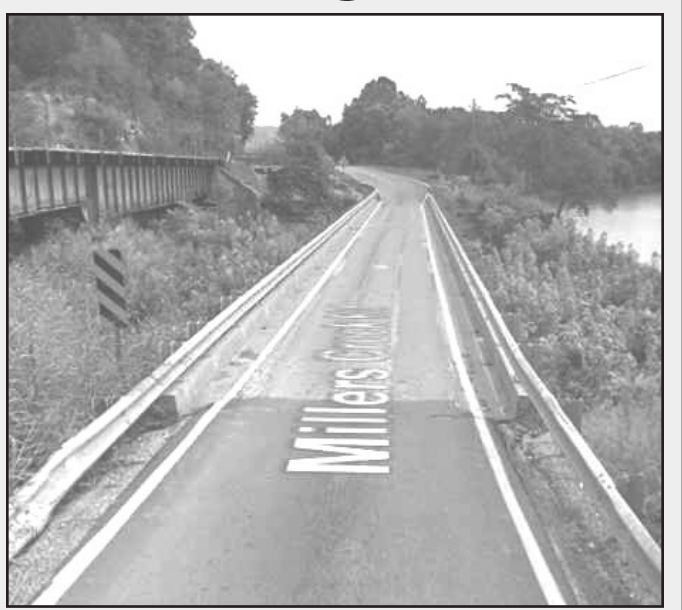
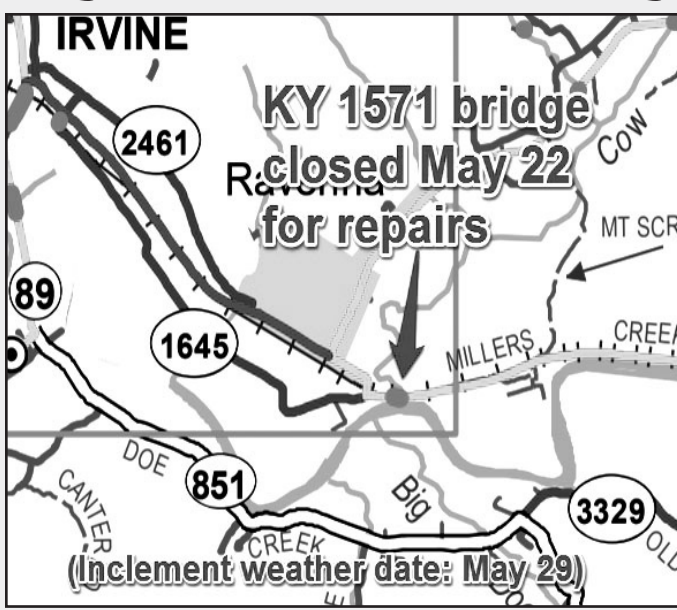
Estill County's trailer after it is loaded with supplies for Nebraska. (Photos courtesy of Eric Baker, Estill UK Extension)

## KY 1571 in Estill County to be closed May 22 for bridge repairs

JACKSON, KY - Drivers who use KY 1571 in Estill County will need to find another route on Wednesday, May 22, so repairs can be made to the deck of a one-lane bridge. This will impact travel between Beattyville and Irvine.

The road will be closed at milepoint 0.4, which is the one-lane bridge over Cow Creek just east of Ravenna. In case of inclement weather, the work will be postponed until Wednesday, May 29.

No marked detour will be posted, but drivers can use KY 52 as an alternate route. Electronic message boards will be posted to inform motorists of the closure. Drivers should plan their trips accordingly and allow extra travel time.



## 213 TALES

by the late  
Michael Dale Proffitt

Memories of the late Michael Dale Proffitt who lived much of his life on KY-213 and KY-52, now called Furnace Junction, continued from last week.

There was a softball team there called Tipton Ridge. They had a ball field across from the Crowe Cemetery and played ball every Sunday there. It was fun watching them play. Allen Crowe was the manager. It had started as Mt. Carmel Christian Church's team. I used to ride everywhere with Allen to watch them. Playing softball was the thing then. They played in a night league at Camargo in Montgomery County. I would ride in the back of the pickup with other boys. We wouldn't get home 'till late at night.

They later changed their name to Fred's Body Shop and had a good team. Once, they had a team come from Ohio to play. They could hit the ball further than anyone I'd ever seen. Home plate was where Bobby Puckett's house is now and they would hit the ball across the road into the Crowe Cemetery, about 400 feet. Sometimes, the ball would hit in the road and bounce really high on the blacktop and into the cemetery.

The younger boys wanted to have a team. They weren't good enough to play for Fred's Body Shop. They called their team Tipton Ridge and made a ball field at the Yeager farm. It belonged to Arnold Puckett and the

manager was married to Arnold's girl. John "Jank" Moreland married Katherine Puckett Moreland and had two teenage sons, Randolph "Scooter" and John Jr. "Johnnie" Moreland. They played for the team. My brother Glenn played too. There was also Danny and David McIntosh, Michael Tipton, Carl, Wallace and Victor Morefield, and several more who played.

They played in the night league in Beattyville and we would ride up there with Jank all the time. The field had a high fence around it and if you knocked three foul balls over the fence, you were out. They would also go to Hazel Green in Wolfe County. Hazel Green was a boys camp and they had a softball team. Hazel Green Academy was for young boys who lived away from home. They would also have tournaments they would play in. I had a lot of fun playing softball with friends but never was much good at it.

I went to summer school one year after the sixth grade. I didn't have to go like Chester did. Chester had bad grades and had to make up credits so he could graduate. Angela went to kindergarten that summer. We went to West Irvine School. We didn't study much. We went on a lot of field trips. We went to Frankfort to the museum. They had a moonshine still from Walters Ridge the McIntoshes had run. We went to Harrodsburg and saw the old Fort Harrod. We also went to Boonesborough but there wasn't a fort there then. Now, they have a replica of Fort Boonesborough. The TV show "Daniel Boone" was on now and we got coonskin caps to wear. Glenn got one too, and we thought we was Daniel Boone. They changed the national forest name from Cumberland to Daniel Boone Na-

tional Forest. It is still called that.

I got a new bicycle now for Christmas. I got it at Kellys Auto Parts in Irvine. Bailey Kelley ran the store and sold auto parts, sporting goods, toys and a lot more. They also ran a recycling yard there. Darrell Tipton had married Bailey's girl.

I thought I was something now with the new bike. It had high handlebars and a banana seat. Donald Puckett and David White also got one. We would ride everywhere and make ramps to jump over and everything. We would ride over the mountain a lot; then push the bikes back up. You could go fast.

Once when I was riding down to the spring a truck pulled out of Tipton Ridge Quarry. I went over the gravel and started to stop. My brakes broke loose and here I went. There was a little white building on that side of the road and I hit it right in the side. The man who was driving the truck come over to check on me. He asked me if I was hurt. I told him, "Heck, no!" Mostly what was hurt was my pride. He still jokes me about that wreck. We rode around to the bootlegging joint sometimes. There would be people there passed out and everything. The man run the beer joint then in a block building with two doors and lots of seats in it. Dad made us quit going around there and a few weeks later, the police raided the man and took him and some more to jail.

We went back to school and Angela was in the first grade with our niece, Rita Gail Wise. They had built more rooms on the side of the school now and closed the Cob Hill and Texola schools. The Texola School was at Pryse. It was called that because the

refinery had been run by Texaco Oil Company at one time. Ashland Oil Company had bought it and closed it. There were still big tanks everywhere there.

There were a lot more students at Ravenna School then. Some classes had two grades in them. I got Mr. Williams for a teacher this year, and he was nice. There were a lot of new students there now. They had put Mrs. Anderson to teaching first grade and Angela had her for a teacher.

I played basketball some that year. I wasn't that good but my friends played. Mr. Williams was the coach. We won the county tournament that year and Mr. Williams took us to Wigwam #2 to eat supper. It was on River Drive in Irvine.

I had a lot of little jobs I would do for people. I worked hauling in wood for Mildred Tipton. She lived with her mom at the Hood Tipton house. They used slab wood and I would haul it in a wheelbarrow into the house.

I loved to mow grass. We had a Lawn Boy lawn mower given to us. Sometimes I would put too much oil in the gasoline. It would smoke a lot. I mowed the Mount Carmel Church yard some. Dillard Tipton would come and get me so he could get the mower out of the basement.

I also worked plowing gardens sometimes with the rototiller Mom had bought at Alexander's Grocery that was on Cow Creek. They had clothes and shoes in one room. Sometimes I would get my shoes there. Nelson's wife ran the store and he farmed. His wife was Jean Howell Alexander. They had two girls, Sharon and Vickie. I went to school with Vickie.

Continued next week.