

News from University of Missouri Extension – Adair County

2008 Northeast Missouri Livestock Person of the Year

Dr. Kyle C. Kent is the 2008 Northeast Missouri Livestock Person of the Year and the newest member of the Northeast Missouri Livestock Producers Hall of Fame.

A long time veterinarian from Green City, Missouri, Dr. Kent has contributed to the progress and well-being of the livestock industry in north Missouri for over fifty years. Following his service with the Marines in WWII he enrolled at the University of Missouri in 1946, received a B.S. in Agriculture in 1949 and received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree in 1953. Although recruited by numerous communities he chose to return home to Green City and started Kent Veterinary Clinic.



Dr. Kyle Kent
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Dr. Kent lists bovine brucellosis, bovine tuberculosis, and hog cholera as the three significant livestock diseases veterinarians have helped eradicate during his career.

In 1955, Dr. Kent started as the veterinarian at the Green City Sale Barn and this became a significant part of his practice. He gained notoriety as an expert in processing large numbers of cattle and some of those innovations in regards to aging and pregnancy staging are used in the industry today.

Dr. Kent has held all the offices in the Missouri Veterinary Medical Association. As president of MVMA he testified before the state legislature and received numerous appointments to livestock industry committees. He was named Veterinarian of the Year in Missouri in 1987, is a member of the Missouri Veterinary Hall of Fame, an honorary member of both Alpha Gamma Rho and Alpha Zeta Fraternities, and is found in Who's Who in Veterinary Science and Medicine.

Community service has been a major part of Dr. Kent's life. He was President of the Green City School

Board (10 years); on the Board of Directors of Farmers Bank in Green City; a member of American Legion Post 365, assigned to Second Marine Division and participated in the Saipan and Okinawa campaigns, serving in Occupation Duty after the war ended in Nagasaki, Japan; Chairman of the Green City United Methodist Church; President Green City Chamber of Commerce; Hawkeye Cemetery Association Treasurer; Green City Senior Citizens Housing Corporation Board Secretary and President of the Green City Industrial Development Corporation to name just a few of his community commitments and service.

Specifically related to agriculture, Dr. Kent was a representative to the Governor's Council on Agriculture, a member of the Missouri Academy of Veterinary Medicine and a Missouri Veterinary Foundation donor, he was also a College of Veterinary Medicine Advisory Committee member and wrote "Vet Call" in the Missouri Ruralist magazine. He served on the Governor's Advisory Council on Agriculture and has been a longtime member of both Farm Bureau and the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

A 4-H leader for 10 years, Dr. Kent remains active in both veterinary medicine and beef cattle on his Green City Farm. He and his wife Doris have been married for 58 years. They have 6 children and 19 grand children. All six children are graduates of the University of Missouri and 14 grand children have attended MU.

All 4 of Dr. Kent's son's are involved with animal health. Richard Kent, DVM, now operates Kent Veterinary Clinic, Mick Kent is head of US sales for Norbrook, (a livestock pharmaceuticals company), Tom Kent is with Pfizer Animal Health, and Bill Kent is a swine representative with Pfizer as well. Dr. Kent's wife, Doris, received her B. S. in Nursing from Truman State University and his two daughters, Shirley Riley and Pat Nullmeyer, received their B.S. in Nursing from the University of Missouri.

It is with great pleasure that the Missouri Livestock Symposium inducts Dr. Kyle C. Kent into the Northeast Missouri Livestock Producer's Hall of Fame. At 83 years young and semi-retired, he still cares for 100 head of beef cows and maintains his veterinary license.

Congratulations to Dr. Kent, his wife Doris, and their family for their contributions to our communities and the livestock industry.