

## *Staff Employee of the Week*

### **Betty J. Wright**

**JOB TITLE:** Unit Administrative Assistant

**HOME DEPARTMENT:** Nottoway Extension Office

**COLLEGE OR VP AREA:** Agriculture and Life Sciences

**NOMINATED FOR:** President's Award for Excellence

**NOMINATED BY:** Terry Abston, Department Head

**VIRGINIA TECH HIRE DATE:** February 1, 1989

### **SUMMARY**

Betty is a valued contributor to the Nottoway Extension Office, and employee of Virginia Tech. Over the past 12 years, the Nottoway Extension Office has had its share of vacancies in the ANR position and 4-H position, plus losing the FCS position in the early 2000's. Betty has kept the face of extension in the foreground, informing clients of program offerings and working closely with the Farm Bureau and the Cattleman's Association to keep the need for an ANR position in the minds of county stakeholders. She has helped several clients when they have called asking questions concerning household problems and cooking instructions. She always finds publications or asks neighboring agents to help when the answer is not in her resources.

The clients are always on the mind of Betty. She is very good at informing them of upcoming workshops and certifications by calling them personally or writing a newsletter keeping them informed even though a position was vacant.

Betty has become one of those jewels, meeting the needs of our county by developing a county brochure to prospective agents interviewing for key positions. She also developed an extension brochure that the County Administrator's Office uses to educate new citizens on the offerings of the extension service. Through her own initiative, she devised a plan to educate new agents to office and county procedures, which is used state wide as a training tool for all new hires. This allows the field offices to have consistent intake policies, so everyone starts on the same page. The decreasing training dollars is a valued impact for the university and the county.