

# Kentucky

F A R M • B U R E A U • N E W S



## *SUMMERTIME at KFB*

AUGUST 2017



solar generation



Cooperative Solar

solar power from your local electric cooperative



KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS  
Volume 16 | No. 6  
August 2017

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Sunflowers growing in Harrison County

Interior graphics by Melissa LaRoche

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One thing I have discovered over the years, either on the farm or in the boardroom is, the benefit of working together and networking with others cannot be overstated. There is great value in coming together with individuals or organizations to accomplish a common goal.

Kentucky Farm Bureau is a wonderful example of how that works. Our members have accomplished great things to make agriculture the strong industry it is today in this state which ultimately benefits all Kentuckians.

Through the years we have partnered with others to address issues and achieve objectives that might not have been possible without the collective strength of all those involved.

KFB is proud to be a part of the Kentucky Infrastructure Coalition, which is made up of manufacturers, farmers, engineers, local leaders and more than 40,000 transportation workers who understand that safe, reliable, efficient transportation is essential to Kentucky's economy.

I don't have to tell our farm family members how important transportation issues are to them and to KFB. Our organization worked diligently to maintain the 22.2 percent allocation of the state gasoline tax revenue for rural roads. Supporting the continuation of that allocation and support of rural secondary and county road aid programs is a priority issue for us.

Our roads, bridges, railways, airports and waterways are essential to get our products from the farm to markets locally, regionally, across the country and around the world. It goes without saying that maintaining and improving these methods of transportation is a priority for agriculture, and really, for all industries and individuals who call Kentucky home.

From a geographical standpoint, the Commonwealth is somewhat of a crossroads for the eastern United States ideally located within a day's travel, by most methods, to some of the largest metropolitan areas, with the largest airports and water ports in the eastern half of the country. Having an adequate transportation infrastructure in place to get to those places is not only critical for our businesses and citizens here, but for those who pass through our state daily.

Closer to home, as direct sales from the farm have grown, an increased number of our farm families travel to local and state markets to meet the demands of the consumer. A good transportation system is critical and is an essential component in fulfilling part of our mission statement which reads "achieve better economic opportunities and enhance the quality of life for all."

The coalition supports long-term, sustainable funding that provides adequate revenues for all modes of transportation so our state can maintain the infrastructure we have today and build what we need for our future.

As we move forward, I feel certain we can maintain and enhance our transportation infrastructure through diligence, education and advocacy efforts made possible when we work together

**Mark Haney**  
President  
Kentucky Farm Bureau



# 2017 County Annual Meetings

*All times are local*

**Adair County**

September 19, 2017, 6:30 p.m.  
Lindsay Wilson College

**Bell County**

September 28, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Bell County Farm Bureau office

**Bourbon County**

October 5, 2017, 6:30 p.m.  
Legion Park in Paris

**Boyd County**

October 9, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Boyd County Fair Grounds  
Franks Fair Building

**Bullitt County**

September 16, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Bullitt County Extension office

**Carroll County**

October 9, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Carroll County Farm Bureau office

**Carter County**

September 11, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Carter County Farm Bureau office

**Casey County**

October 5, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
AG Expo Center

**Clinton County**

September 14 6:00 p.m.  
Clinton County Fairgrounds

**Crittenden County**

September 12, 2017, 6:30 p.m.  
Crittenden County Ed Tech Center

**Cumberland County**

September 22, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Veterans Memorial Building, Burkesville

**Edmonson County**

October 21, 2017, 4:00 p.m.  
Edmonson County High School

**Fayette County**

October 19, 2017, 7:00 p.m.  
Fayette County Extension office

**Gallatin County**

October 2, 2017, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Gallatin County Farm Bureau office

**Henry County**

October 12, 2017, 7:00 p.m.  
Henry County Farm Bureau office

**Jackson County**

September 18, 2017 6:00 p.m.  
Jackson Energy Farm on Highway 290 in McKee

**Jefferson County**

November 7, 2017, 7:30 p.m.  
Jefferson County Federation office

**Knox County**

September 7, 2017, 6:30p.m.  
Knox County Farm Bureau office

**Laurel County**

October 10, 2017, 5:45 p.m.  
Laurel County Farm Bureau office

**Letcher County**

September 18, 2017, 4:00 p.m.  
Letcher County Farm Bureau office

**Logan County**

September 9, 2017 6:00 p.m.  
Logan County Extension office

**Magoffin County**

September 11, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Magoffin County Extension office

**Mason County**

October 9, 2017, 7:00 p.m.  
Mason County Extension office

**McCreary County**

September 21, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
RECC building

**Metcalfe County**

September 14, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Metcalfe County Extension office

**Morgan County**

October 19, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Morgan County Extension office

**Perry County**

August 14, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Farm Bureau office, Hazard Village Agency

**Rowan County**

October 3, 2017, 6:30 p.m.  
Rowan County Farm Bureau  
Building Board Room

**Russell County**

September 8, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Russell County Fairgrounds

**Scott County**

September 21, 2017, 6:30 p.m.  
Scott County Extension office

**Shelby County**

October 7, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Shelby County Extension office

**Simpson County**

August 31, 2017, 6:30 p.m.  
Ag Building, Jim Roberts  
Community Park

**Taylor County**

August 14, 2017, 7:30 p.m.  
Taylor County Farm Bureau office

**Trimble County**

August 17, 2017, 7:30 p.m.  
Trimble County Cooperative  
Extension office

**Wayne County**

September 25, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Aspire Center

**Whitley County**

September 12, 2017 6:00 p.m.  
Brashear's Grocery

**Union County**

June 24, 2017, 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Union County Fairgrounds

**Warren County**

September 16, 2017, 5:30 p.m.  
South Warren High School

**Webster County**

August 11, 2017, 6:30 p.m.  
Webster County High School Annex

**Wolfe County**

September 25, 2017, 6:00 p.m.  
Wolfe County Extension office



Kentucky Farm Bureau is a voluntary organization of farm families and their allies dedicated to serving as the voice of agriculture by identifying problems, developing solutions and taking actions which will improve net farm income, achieve better economic opportunities and enhance the quality of life for all.

**KFB OFFICERS**

Mark Haney.....President  
Eddie Melton.....1st Vice President  
Fritz Giesecke.....2nd Vice President  
David S. Beck.....Executive Vice President

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**KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS**  
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## comment COLUMN



“Welcome to the Kentucky State Fair.” For anyone who has been coming to the best state fair in the country, you have heard me say these words.

I deem it a privilege to have served as the official greeter of visitors to this wonderful event since 1958. Time sure has passed quickly and I have had the best seat in the house throughout those years to experience amazing exhibits, smell the wonderful food and to visit with the millions of people from across the state, throughout the country and even from around the world who have come to the fair.

Many of you have been stopping by to say hello to me since I first arrived and I thank you for that. It’s always good to see old friends.

But I get as much joy from meeting news friends, both young and those young at heart who stop to ask a question or two such as how tall I am or my shoe size.

I think I have the best job in the world and I hope I have been memorable to all those I have met in the past six decades.

Many things have changed over the years. I look a little different now than I did back in the late 1950’s. But we all change a bit with time, at least in the way we look.

One thing that has remained the same however, is the reason I come to the fair every year. I am there to make everyone I see feel welcome and to provide a little information about the fair, Farm Bureau and agriculture to those who inquire.

Many don’t know that the fair got its start, by some accounts, back in 1816 but wasn’t officially recognized by the state until 1902. Not long after that, Kentucky Farm Bureau was born and has been a close partner throughout those years.

While I get a kick out of all the questions asked of me, I really enjoy talking about agriculture. It is one of the foundations of the fair and each year thousands of people come to show their animals, exhibit their crops or participate in ag-related events.

Agriculture is as much of a tradition at the fair as I am and it is always a great experience to help so many people understand the importance it plays in our everyday lives.

In the early years, most of my visitors had a connection to the farm but that has changed since then. But that’s okay. I’m happy to help remind people why we farm and point them in the direction of the many agricultural exhibits.

While we all have experienced change since my first fair, some things remain the same. The Kentucky State Fair has always been a place to celebrate our heritage, our diversity and our love for this great state. I hope you make your way to and enjoy this year’s fair and I look forward to many more conversations with old friends and new ones, as well.

By the way, I am 18 feet tall when I stand up and my shoes size is 31, in case you were wondering.

**Freddy Farm Bureau**



# 2017 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

KFB and county Farm Bureau organizations provided approximately 431 college scholarship grants this year totaling \$540,775. The scholarships were awarded to recipients who displayed the greatest levels of academic excellence, involvement in extracurricular activities, leadership abilities and financial need. Scholarship sponsors and the recipients are:

**SAM MOORE SCHOLARSHIP – \$4,000**  
Awarded to a student attending a Kentucky college/university and pursuing a four-year degree in animal health/veterinary technology or a related field.  
*Kaylee Cheyenne Collins, Estill County*

**LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIPS – \$3,000 each**  
Awarded to students of farm families attending a Kentucky college or university.  
*Susannah Lesley Whitesell, Fulton County; Morgan Faith Munsey, Wayne County*

**KFB YOUNG FARMER SCHOLARSHIP – \$2,000**  
Awarded to a college upperclassman. Student must be attending a Kentucky college/university and majoring in agriculture or a related field.  
*Cody Lee Burke, Fleming County*

**KFB YOUNG FARMER SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000**  
Awarded to a college upperclassman. Student must be attending a Kentucky college/university and majoring in agriculture or a related field.  
*Coleman Stivers, Fayette County*

**BEAUTIFICATION LEAGUE OF LOUISVILLE SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000**  
Awarded to a student attending a Kentucky college/university and pursuing a four-year degree in horticulture or landscape architecture.  
*Ashley Michelle Johnson, Casey County*

**KFB EMPLOYEE CHILD SCHOLARSHIP – \$2,000**  
*Madisynn Harper, Bullitt County*

**KFB MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY SCHOLARSHIPS – \$2,000 each**  
*Ally June VanHook, Pulaski County; Emma Beth Lawson, Washington County*

**KFB INSURANCE AGENTS ASSOC. SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 each**  
*Johnna Leigh Kuegel, Daviess County; Sarah Ruth Bryant, Henry County*

**PAUL D. EVERMAN FUND FOR LIFETIME LEARNING SCHOLARSHIP – \$3,000**  
*Tera Houston, Jefferson County*

**KFB FEDERATION SCHOLARSHIPS – \$1,000 each**  
*Maria Elizabeth Hyrcza and Macy Ann Jefferson, Bracken County; Amy Elizabeth Docter, Bullitt County; Connor Marc Brown, Butler County; Emma ReAnne Cravens, Casey County; Frank Zheng, Clinton County; Collin Allen Merkel, Daviess County; Samuel Johnson, Fleming County; Shelbi Leah Pendergest, Grayson County; Mary Elizabeth Osborne, Hardin County; Shayla Danielle Baker and Kali M. Nolan, Harlan County; Haley Elizabeth Baird and Chelsea Lynn Hatcher, Hart County; Cara Elizabeth Daniels, Henderson County; Nada George Kaissieh, Jefferson County; Hannah Christine White, Lyon County; Abby Elizabeth Collins, Magoffin County; Mary Rose Hagan, Marion County; Faith Olivia Turner, Mason County; Barton Trace Christmas and Landon Cole Rutherford, McCracken County; Kasey Renee Stephens, McCreary County; Sidney Rae Trimble, Morgan County; Austin Tyler Mattingly, Nelson County; Ethan James Leggett, Oldham County; Krystal Elisabeth Fields, Pendleton County; Taylor Jean Williams, Perry County; Marissa Elaine Allen, Spencer County; Rylen Mei Smith, Taylor County; Chloe Gabrielle Massengale, Wayne County*

**ADAIR COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Taylor Lawhorn, Jonathan Noah Ollery*

**ALLEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU RALSTON BEWLEY SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Ryan Lee Conner – \$500*

**ALLEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Jessie Sue Pruitt, Katherine Ditmore*

**ANDERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Adam Sanderson, Marissa Barnes,*

*Ben Tinsley – \$2,000 each*  
*Abram Gettelfinger,*  
*Brandon Boggs – \$1,500 each*

**BARREN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each**  
*Lauren Madison Barrett, Bradon Burks, Mariah Hughes, Ally Jones, Tyler Thomerson*

**BATH COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Leanna Butcher, Alyssa Williams*

**BELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU PAT BIGGERSTAFF SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 each**  
*Joseph Short, Lauren West*  
*Bell County Farm Bureau Ray Reed Scholarship -- \$1,000 each*  
*Stephen Baker, William C. Blevins, Alexandria Brock, Madison Brock, Ricky Broughton, Victoria Ferguson, Ethan Gambrel, Sarah R. Hoskins, Gracen Howard, Ashlyn Jones, Corey Mills, Austin Nolan, Matthew C. Raines, James W. Saylor, Sarah Slusher, Morgan Thompson*

**BOONE COUNTY FARM BUREAU TODD RYAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Gary Scott Moore – \$1,000*

**BOONE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000**  
*Savannah Rae Allen, Blake Tyler Berry*

**BOURBON COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Kylie Withers – 4 year scholarship (\$1,000 per year)*  
*Zack Jones (\$400), Victoria Vaughn (\$400), Katie Crump (\$725), Lindsay Hayes (\$725), and Tara Wolfenbarger (\$725)*

**BOYLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU DAVID C. SPARROW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Karlie Reid Graves – \$1,000*

**BRACKEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each**  
*Grace Appelman, Scott “Austin” Crawford,*

*Catherine E. Emmons, Korbin N. Florer, Jacob Wayne Hamilton, Maria Hyrcza, Macy Ann Jefferson, Julie Madison Kalb, John “Jack” Addison Laycock, Kylie Moneyhon, Nicholas Rice*

**BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Brittany Carwile, Mariah Critchelow*

**BULLITT COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 each**  
*Heather Crowe, Courtney Hughes, Olivia Lile, Blaine Miller, Jacob Orr*

**BULLITT COUNTY FB YOUNG FARMERS SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Joy “Chrissie” White – \$1,000*

**BULLITT COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Lindsey Neighbors – \$750*

**BUTLER COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Madilyn McKinney – \$1,000*

**CALDWELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Hunter Adams – \$1,000*

**CALLOWAY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Kennedy Jones, Sarai McCallon, Mattie Miller*

**CAMPBELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Rebecca Marie Cline, Brycen Alexander Coyle, Micah Caldwell Myers, Megan Marie Schalk, Anna Jo Schneider, Lydia Rae Wolf*

**CARROLL COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Haizey Smith – \$750*

**CASEY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each**  
*Sarah Elizabeth Harne, Haley Samantha Middleton*

**CHRISTIAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 each**  
*Jonathon Christian Garnett, Julianna Hope Kelly, Mary Glenn Orem, Jamison Keith Sholar*

**CLAY COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Adam Carnahan – \$500*  
*Joseph Crawford White – \$2,000*

**JOSEPH CRAWFORD WHITE CLAY COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Brice Lynden Smith – \$2,000 over 4 years*

**CLINTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each**  
*Steven Grider, Matthew Hunter, Cassidy Key, Kayla Shelton*

**CRITTENDEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Emily Denise Hall, Brennan Heath Jones, Ashley Cali Parish, Emily Elizabeth Tinsley*

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1000 each**  
*Will Alexander, Peyton Young*

**DAVIESS COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Ashton Elizabeth Robertson – \$2,000*

**DAVIESS COUNTY FB INSURANCE AGENTS**  
*Jacob Thomas Howard – \$2,000*

**DAVIESS COUNTY TOM CURTSINGER SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Johnna Leigh Kuegel – \$2,000*

**DAVIESS COUNTY DANIEL L. TURLEY SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Collin Allen Merkel – \$2,000*

**DAVIESS COUNTY MIKE SAYLORS SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Hannah Marie Brown – \$1,000*

**DAVIESS COUNTY FARM BUREAU YOUNG FARMER SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Rebecca Elizabeth Hester*  
*Caldbeck – \$1,000*

**EDMONSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Emily Davis, Maranda Garrett*

**ELLIOTT COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Emma Dickerson, Jayla Rose*

**FAYETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Allison Shell – \$20,000*

**FAYETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$10,000 each**  
*Andrew Barton, Ellis Brown, Katharine “Meriwether” Carling, Anne Waits*

**FLEMING COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Gabrielle Emmons, Jordan Rae Fidler, A.K. Phillips*

**FLOYD COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 each**  
*Zachary Scott Akers, Derek Blake Charles, Charles Seth Compton, Bethany Kimbler, Justin Rowe, Nicholas Stevens*

**FRANKLIN COUNTY FARM BUREAU PAUL GRAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP – \$2000 per semester for Freshman year**  
*Danielle Hockensmith*

**GARRARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU**  
*Mary Katherine Oberman – \$2,000*

**GRANT COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Caroline Kinsey, Jacob Mulberry, Genevieve Risner, Magdalene Walters, Shania Young*

**GRAYSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$5,000 each**  
*Justus Bailey Decker, Kara R. Decker, Loryn Mahalea Deweese, Allie Horton, Alayna Johnston, Shelbi Pendergest, Hannah Renfro, Joshua Rivera, Leslie Swafford*

**HANCOCK COUNTY FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 each**  
*Callie Hagman, Brandon Hall, Leah Marsch*

**HARDIN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each**  
*Mason Ashlock, Jeremy Bramlett, Bryce Highbaugh. Anna McKinley, Rebekah McKinley, Mattie Mink*

**HARDIN COUNTY GENEVA SHIPP MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 each**  
*Katie Bowles, Jonathan French*

**HARDIN COUNTY RAY MACKAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 each**  
*Marianna Godfrey, Clayton Heibert. Marie Noel, Jacob Snyder*

**HARDIN COUNTY ROBERT E. “BOBBY” THOMAS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 each**  
*Alexis Legaspi, Grant Lucas*

**HARDIN COUNTY LOUIS CROSIER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Trenton Robert Thomas – \$1,000*

<b>HARDIN COUNTY JESSE SHIPP MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Kyle Mobley – \$1,000</i>
<b>HARLAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,500 each</b> <i>Shyla Baker, Elaine Browning, Shelli Hacker, Dalissa Lauren Noe, Mitchell W. Tolliver</i>
<b>HARRISON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Anna Katherine Arthur, Emma Casey Darnell, Russell Faulconer</i>
<b>HART COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Sara Kerr, Trace Meador, William Wade Scott</i>
<b>HENDERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> <i>Jessica Ann Stoner – \$1,000</i>
<b>HENDERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Cara Elizabeth Daniels, James Robert Dawson, Julie Anne Hancock, Kristin Camille Logsdon, Riley Lynn Mabe, Lucas Earl Osborne, Jace Brandon Pinkston, Rebecca Taryn Robards, Jesslyn Macy Watson</i>
<b>HENRY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Bayleigh Raye Boyer, Sarah Ruth Bryant, Lillian Nicole Golden, Whitney Jeffries, Erin Bailee Massey, Victoria Leigh Whitaker</i>
<b>HICKMAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Audrey Frizzell, Caroline Webb</i>
<b>HOPKINS COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000</b> <i>Mya Elizabeth DeHay, Irelane Lee Enoch</i>
<b>HOPKINS COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> <i>Sarah E. Lutz – \$4,000</i>
<b>JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU REGULAR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Parker James Andres – \$16,000 Nathan Brice French – \$1,000 Alexander Grant Merkley – \$1,000 Aubrey Delayne Wells – \$1,000</i>
<b>JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Abigail Lyn Keairns – \$1,000, Aubrey Delayne Wells – 1,000</i>

<b>JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU ANDREW BUTLER MEMORIAL AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Alissa Ann Summers – \$16,000</i>
<b>JOHNSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each, per semester</b> <i>Jacub Michael Colvin, Jacob Davis Patton</i>
<b>KENTON COUNTY JAMES A. KANNADY SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Sabrina Lauren Collins – \$2,000</i>
<b>KENTON COUNTY WARREN VANHORN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Ian Fogarty Galvin – \$2,000</i>
<b>KENTON COUNTY WILLIAM DURR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Elizabeth Grace Butler – \$2,000</i>
<b>KNOTT COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> <i>Ruby Elizabeth Yeary – \$1,000</i>
<b>LAUREL COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$4,000 each</b> <i>Tory Alexander Bowling, Caleb Richard Caudill</i>
<b>LAWRENCE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 each</b> <i>Cameron Dwayne Maynard, Natalie Grace Rice</i>
<b>LETCHER COUNTY FARM BUREAU– \$1,000 each</b> <i>Emily F. Baker, Sydney P. Caudill, Sara Coots, Aleisa D. Engle, Caleb P. Fleming, Katanna Brooke Fugate, Dylan S. Fultz, Cameran M. Kincer, Benjamin P. Mason, Kiley J. Shont, Amethyst Soto, Hannah K. Wampler, Courtney R. Whitaker, Amer L. Wright</i>
<b>LEWIS COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Michael Gerike, William Dalton Stanfield, Brittany Stone</i>
<b>LEWIS COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Robert Chase Bradford, Eden Jordan, Bravin Lykins</i>
<b>LIVINGSTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Jensen Renee Cosby, Allison Leanne Doyle, Cierra Jade Henry</i>

<b>LOGAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> <i>Andrew Milam – \$500</i>
<b>LYON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Gabrielle Gray, Allison Elis, Catherine Armstrong</i>
<b>MAGOFFIN COUNTY FARM BUREAU– \$1,000 each</b> <i>Austin Clay Gibson, Dakota Salyer, Zachary Ryan Salyer</i>
<b>MARION COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Paige Cecil, Gerard Flanagan, Mitchel Followay, Carrie Ann Followell, Paige Mattingly, Taylor Simpson, Alexis Thomas</i>
<b>MARTIN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Emily Butcher, David Cantrell, Caitlyn Cook, Skyler Harmon, Zachary Mollett, Kendal Ward</i>
<b>MASON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Chase Burton, Madison Butler, Kaitlyn E. Collins, Ian Z. Edgington, Erika George, Haley McCarty, Jack Segal, Christopher Thomas, Faith Turner</i>
<b>MCLEAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU/JACK TAYLOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP – \$1000 each</b> <i>Madison Nicole Riley and Kaylee Elizabeth Leonard</i>
<b>MCCRACKEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Emily Michelle Gipson, Mallory Leigh Thompson</i>
<b>MEADE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Kristen Swanson, Miranda Tabor</i>
<b>MERCER COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> <i>Andrew Thomas Bray – \$1,000</i>
<b>MERCER COUNTY FARM BUREAU YOUNG FARMER SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Levi Chase Cocanougher – \$1,000</i>
<b>METCALFE COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> <i>Kelsie Elizabeth-Ann Hodges – \$500</i>

<b>MONROE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Meg Turner Harlin, Joni Elise Thompson</i>
<b>MONTGOMERY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 each</b> <i>Noah B. Sallie, Michaela Walker</i>
<b>MORGAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 each</b> <i>Bethany Renae Allen, Shateka Dawn Coffey, Katrina Ellen Trent</i>
<b>MUHLENBERG COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Hunter Braxton Combs, Ethan Miller Day, Macie Dawn Smith</i>
<b>NELSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$600 each</b> <i>Brooklyn Nicole Ballard, Samantha Rae Ballard, Bailey Renee Bertrand, Devin Wayne Boggs, Madison Elizabeth Brady, Clayton Cole Carter, Payton Kathleen Carter, Julie Katherine Crowe, Lesley Ann Downs, Zacary Lee Downs, Shelby Lynn Enlow, Isaac, Daniel Filiatreau, Paula Marie Gagne, Ricky Landon Helton, Jonathan Ryan Martin, Maggie Danielle Parrish, Elexus Kiara Peake, Marley Shay Rogers, Rebecca Jo Satterly, Kyle Wayne Schenck, Matthew Eric Ulrich II, Amy Lynn Wathen, Joanna Elizabeth Whitis, David Martin Williams, Rachel Nance Young</i>
<b>NICHOLAS COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> <i>Cassidy Wells – \$500</i>
<b>OLDHAM COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> <i>Michael Schultz – \$2,000</i>
<b>OLDHAM COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOYD JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Sydney Nicole Eldridge – \$2,000</i>
<b>OLDHAM COUNTY FARM BUREAU CURRENT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Lauren Nicole Siers – \$3,000</i>
<b>OWEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Steven Beverly, Parker Wyatt Cole, Autumn Hunter, Baileigh McGuire</i>
<b>PENDLETON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Evan Hartzel, Morgan Pickett</i>

<b>PERRY COUNTY FARM BUREAU– \$500 each</b> <i>Keisha Couch, Tayler Davis, Morgan Dixon, Ashley Eversole, Miranda Feltner, Mishaela Feltner, Daniel Hurley, Tucker Jett, Rianne Kablan, Natasha McQueen, Adam Quillen, Noah Sample, Ryan Smith, Sarah Spare, Alphie Turner</i>
<b>PIKE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – Amount Unknown</b> <i>Kaley G. Adkins, Jacob Beverly, Alexa Shaye Damron, Noah B. Damron, Joshua N. McCarthy, Tatiana Murphy, Katie E. Ratliff, Autumn P. Smith, Bethany N. Smith, Hannah Dawn Smith</i>
<b>PULASKI COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,200 each</b> <i>Evan H. Brinson, Miah Jenai Carey, Kayelee Autumn Hudson, John David Nelson</i>
<b>ROBERTSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> <i>Aletha Ruth Thomas – \$400</i>
<b>ROCKCASTLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$400 each</b> <i>Madelyn Bullen, Alyssa Bustle, Arie Anna Lawson, Jonah Pillion</i>
<b>RUSSELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 each</b> <i>Aaron Bailey Bunch, Kaitlyn Haley Coffey, Katrina Elizabeth Hadley</i>
<b>SCOTT COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Taylor Berryman, Gary "Payton" Allen Biddle, Lydia Bredwood, Caleb Covington, Caleb Dennis, Ashlee Edmondson, Halie Fain, Braden Florence, Sarah Lyons, Kelly McFarland, Benton White, Jessie Renee Withrow</i>
<b>SHELBY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000</b> <i>Kate Greenwell Dutton, Payton Pauline Ruddy</i>
<b>SHELBY COUNTY FARM BUREAU ROY V. CATLETT SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Kaylee Nicole Fry – \$1,000</i>
<b>SHELBY COUNTY FARM BUREAU CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Wendy Lynn Renfrow – \$1,000</i>

<b>SIMPSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Grace Clark, Cooper DeGraffenreid, Macey Johnson</i>
<b>SPENCER COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 each</b> <i>Tanner Goodlett, Courtney Jeffiers, Rachel Sibert</i>
<b>TRIGG COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 each</b> <i>Megan Mitchell, D'Avian Phillips, Jonathan Sink, Cody Wilson</i>
<b>TRIMBLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 each</b> <i>Gabrielle Murrar, John-Michael Lolin Sachlebek, Corbin Tate Thornsberry</i>
<b>WARREN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$4,000</b> <i>Amber Leigh Ridgway</i>
<b>WARREN COUNTY FARM BUREAU R.O. BUCHANON SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Alexander Luke Conway – \$4,000</i>
<b>WAYNE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 each</b> <i>Chloe Massengale, Kelci Pyles, Jennifer Sawyer</i>
<b>WEBSTER COUNTY FARM BUREAU HIGHLAND DAIRY SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000</b> <i>Kaylee Marie Duncan, Elizabeth C. Waller</i>
<b>WHITLEY COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b> <i>Alexandra Dakota Sutton – \$3,000</i>
<b>WOODFORD COUNTY FARM BUREAU ROBERT HUFFMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Caylee Marshall – \$2,000</i>
<b>WOODFORD COUNTY FARM BUREAU JONATHAN PRICE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Jodie Smith – \$2,000</i>
<b>WOODFORD COUNTY FARM BUREAU ROGER REEVES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Will Blaydes – \$2,000</i>



# KFB President Mark Haney

## Takes Farm Bill Message to Senate Ag Committee

The first permanent farm bill was passed in 1938 when farming was much different. Since then the legislation has been updated many times to coincide with the changing agriculture industry but the purpose of the bill still basically remains the same; to establish and oversee programs that help farm families be successful and maintain a steady food supply.

Kentucky Farm Bureau President Mark Haney recently testified in front of the Senate Agriculture Committee on behalf of the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) highlighting many of the needs farmers are looking for in the next farm bill update.

"Really the goals of American Farm Bureau for the farm bill this year are to keep the safety net of crop insurance at the center. However, we want to be able to expand programs that help dairy, we want to be able to utilize and enhance the ARC county program, the PLC, all those that we want to be in place," he said. "We want to be able to choose, reenroll in the new farm bill, and really be able to use those programs that are operational for their farms."

Haney, a member of the AFBF executive committee, told Senate Ag Committee members that 2017 and 2018 will be a critical period for farmers and ranchers.

"Farmers and ranchers are tightening their belts and paying very close attention to their individual financial situations. Simply put, they are in greater need of strong, secure safety



KFB President Mark Haney

net programs and risk management tools than has been the case for several years."

To offset the effects of deteriorating farm and ranch conditions, Haney said, Congress should:

- Protect current farm bill spending.
- Maintain a unified farm bill that includes nutrition programs and farm programs together.

- Ensure any changes to current farm legislation be an amendment to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 or the Agricultural Act of 1949.
- Prioritize top funding concerns – risk management tools, which include both federal crop insurance and Title I commodity programs.
- Ensure programs are compliant with World Trade Organization agreements.

"We're all looking for the same thing in rural America. We want to be able to continue multi-generational farming, we want to be able to raise our children and our grandchildren in a rural community that provides the best of the world it can offer," said Haney. "They want pristine waters, and good roads, and good infrastructure, and nice schools and hospitals, all the things that go with where you and I and other folks want to live. We want that for our children. The farm bill helps deliver that."



2017 Roadside Market Tour attendees, above, visited farms and markets in Ohio and Pennsylvania.



## 2017 Roadside Market Tour

### Offered Diverse Look at Markets to the North

Attendees on this year's Kentucky Farm Bureau Roadside Market Tour got a look at a very diverse group of market venues located throughout Ohio and Pennsylvania including an Amish produce auction and a multi-generational farm that supplies produce to its more than 20 family-owned markets.

The tour is part of an ongoing summer series of tours offered to KFB Roadside Market owners, members and market-interested individuals looking to gain knowledge for their businesses by learning from other similar businesses.

David Chappell, KFB state director, chair of the KFB Roadside Farm Market Committee and producer from Owen County said this tour is a great way to see and learn new ideas that can be taken home to the vast networks of markets across Kentucky.

"The trips are tremendously valuable because everywhere we stop we see something different and learn something different that we may be able to use ourselves," he said. "And when you talk to the people we meet in these other markets, they are always willing to help and share information to help make our markets and crops better."

Chappell was on the board when the idea of the KFB Roadside Farm Market Program was first introduced and said since, there have been many state markets created making Kentucky's horticulture industry strong; all the more reason to learn from this annual tour.

In addition to market owners, Sharon Spencer, Division Director for the

Kentucky Department of Agriculture's (KDA) Direct Farm Marketing and Hannah Forte, a compliance/project manager for the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy (GOAP) made the trip, as well. Spencer has participated on seven different tours but Forte was making her first with KFB. She said the outing was a great way to learn about these markets as well as utilize it as a networking experience.

"We work really closely with KFB and KDA so part of this trip is about the networking and to talk to the producers throughout the areas in which we traveled to get ideas and bring them back and see if something they're doing, may be something we could do in Kentucky with agricultural development funds to assist," said Forte.

Forte has a number of roles at GOAP including working with farmers' market programs around the state. She noted how valuable the Roadside Farm Market Program has been.

"It has kind of laid the groundwork for what we're trying to do with ag development funds," she said. "We're really there to help more from a monetary perspective."

Spencer said the Roadside Market Tour has been a valuable opportunity for our Kentucky producers and many have taken the ideas they have learned, implemented them and have been very successful because of it.

"It's always a learning experience to see how each state promotes their farmers and products but after all this, I still see Kentucky coming out on top in

supporting our state farmers," she said.

Spencer cited several reasons for the success seen in this state including the partnerships that exist between KDA and UK Extension Service, Department for Public Health, GOAP and KFB. She also credited Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles for his support in moving Kentucky agriculture forward.

"I greatly appreciate Kentucky Farm Bureau for supporting the Roadside Market Program and I'm looking forward to joining their staff and members on many more tours," she said.

KFB President Mark Haney also attended the tour. As a Roadside Farm Market participant and fifth generation producer he said learning from others is a tried and true method of improving local operations.

"As a market owner myself, I can tell you one thing about our business; it's never too late to learn new things and we certainly gain a lot of knowledge and many new ideas from our summertime Roadside Market Tours," he said. "The tours conducted at KFB, I believe, are second to none and have proven to be so valuable to our members and guests who have been a part of the tours for so many years. It has made our businesses and our industry much better by seeing what our friends in other places are doing."

KFB Tours are an integral part of the organization's efforts to assist members, and sponsor partners are critical in making these tours possible. This year Farm Credit Mid America helped sponsor the Roadside Market Tour.

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Lauren Schmitt from Livingston County

## IFAL Offers Leadership Opportunities for a Second Generation

Kentucky Farm Bureau's (KFB) Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL) has proven to be a successful, long-running program providing a unique summer leadership conference, now reaching a second generation of high school junior students.

This five-day event brings students to Murray State University (MSU) and the University of Kentucky (UK) and allows them to explore different fields of study for careers in agriculture while giving them a glimpse into college life by touring the schools and meeting with faculty members.

The program also allows students to become more familiar with Farm Bureau and ag issues including a FB 101 session and their participation in the discussion meet, a debate-styled competition developed by the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) for young farmers, and is something held at each IFAL event.

KFB's Jackson Tolle, Director, Young Farmer Programs said of all the activities enjoyed by the students attending IFAL, the discussion meet is likely the most beneficial when it comes to expanding their knowledge about agricultural issues.

"For many of the students, the discussion meet is the first time they have participated in this type of debate forum and I think it really brings out their knowledge and opinions about current agriculture issues," he said. "It's exciting to see them go from being students of agriculture to true ag advocates."

Tolle also said often these students that participate in IFAL are making their first college campus visit.

"The program has proven to be helpful to this generation and the past one when it comes to their future educational endeavors," he said. "But more than that, these students are building relationships that will last a lifetime and are making positive steps to invest in their future."

Warren Beeler, the executive director of the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy visits IFAL each year to share his thoughts about agriculture in the state and how important it is for these young people to be involved.

"We've got to have the best of the best coming into this (agriculture) and I think the students set their sights higher coming out of IFAL, hearing the different speakers you have and just being around each other. It lets them see the world from a higher view," he said. "It gives

them a global picture and that is huge for the industry. We've got to have young people with a passion for what we do and I can't thank Farm Bureau enough for taking the time with and making the investment in these young people."

### THE STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVE

Lauren Schmitt, a student from Livingston County attended the Murray State IFAL program as did her father.

"I discovered IFAL through my dad who shared the experiences he had in the program and told me what a great opportunity it was to step out and learn more about agriculture and develop your leadership skills," she said. "It's always been in the back of my mind and I took the information he shared with me and applied it to myself."

Schmitt said in knowing that IFAL has stood the test of time, she can see how it has positively affected this generation by knowing and seeing how it positively affected her father's generation.

"The experience at IFAL has been absolutely beneficial and will help me decide about my future college plans, my career plans and ultimately help me become a better person leadership-wise," she said.

Schmitt's father, Robert Schmitt,

is an agriculture teacher at Livingston Central High School. He said IFAL provides an opportunity for students who are interested in the future of agriculture to come together to develop and enhance themselves while building lifelong relationships on a professional and personal basis.

Lauren is heading in the right direction as far as staying involved in agriculture. She currently serves as the Livingston Central FFA Chapter President and plans to study ag education, animal science or both in college.

"My dad told me he met some of his best friends and colleagues through IFAL and I want to make those connections with people now so I will have them throughout the rest of my life," she said.

Sarah Hancock, is a student at Adair County High School and also represented a second generation in her family to attend IFAL. It was her uncle who first attended. She said his experience has benefited him throughout his life and she looks forward to the same happening for her.

"My dad and uncle encouraged me to attend IFAL and said it is an amazing experience," she said.

Part of that experience was participating in activities to give her insight into her future. Hancock's background is truly about agriculture having grown up on a farm that consists of a dairy, beef cattle and crop operations and something she wants to continue.

"I've been raised on the farm my entire life and I would like to carry on the tradition of the farm and the dairy but I would also like to become a veterinarian," she said. "IFAL allowed me to hear from professors that are involved in the pre-vet programs and it gave me insight on what I want to do with my future."

Hancock added that in discovering leadership skills, she also learned that in order to lead others you have to be willing to help them and to accept help.

Nick Sandusky, a student at Marion County High School where he is involved in FFA and 4-H, attended this year's IFAL at UK saying it was a very educational experience and also eye-opening.

"My roots are deep into agriculture and as I am becoming a senior, the topic of what to do with my life is becoming ever more important. IFAL helped me



answer that question," he said. "The entire KFB and UK staff, as well as the counselors made me feel as if I were at home during the week. Together, they helped me develop skills that will be essential for life after high school, grow my self-confidence, and further my abilities to be the best leader I can be."

Sandusky added that the highlight of IFAL for him was the challenge course at Asbury University and he recommends the program for anyone no matter what career they choose.

This year's Outstanding Farm Bureau Youth male winner, Jacob Patterson of Pulaski County, is no stranger to KFB programs and attended the Murray IFAL event. He said he was encouraged by his former FFA president who had attended two years ago.

"That was the first I had heard

about IFAL and, when I entered the Outstanding Youth competition, I heard more about it and thought it would be something good to get involved with and I loved it," he said. "Getting to meet all the students that are my age, I know they will be the next future leaders in agriculture and they are amazing and passionate about the industry."

Patterson added that it's important to get a younger generation involved in agriculture to keep the industry moving forward and as strong as it is in the U.S.

"From the lessons we take back from IFAL and apply them in our own lives, it provides a long term gain for a short term investment," he said.

To learn more about IFAL, go to [www.kyfb.com/federation/youth-development/ifal](http://www.kyfb.com/federation/youth-development/ifal).





Discussion Meet finalists from left: Cody Rakes, Miranda Chaplin, Lilly Robertson, and Taylor Jones.

## KFB Young Farmer Summer Outing:

### Bringing Young Farm Families Together to Learn, Listen and Advocate

Thomas Folz of Christian County attended his very first Kentucky Farm Bureau Young Farmer Outing this year but being a young farmer is nothing new to him. He, and his family, farm about 3,000 acres in Herndon, Kentucky.

By virtue of his heritage, Folz is a young farmer by birthright but for this recent Murray State University graduate, he wants to be more involved than just carrying on the family business.

"I'm just getting involved with the Young Farmer program in my county and looking forward to being more involved," he said. "It gives me a chance to network with other farmers from around the state and do things that gives back to the community."

Folz is the face of the new generation farmer and was joined by nearly 300 others in that same category for this year's outing. While they all may have different farming operations, they all have a few things in common including navigating a challenging farming environment and doing it through the advocacy efforts of KFB.

During the two day event, attendees heard from KFB leadership who spoke on many topics including the importance of relationships with their local and state

lawmakers; the significant of the policy development process and an update to the gathering on some of the current agricultural issues going on at the state and national levels.

Attendees were also able to take tours of local agri-businesses and enjoyed family activities including a trip to the University of Kentucky's Kroger Field, as part of the two-day event.

Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles also spoke to these young farm families and shared with them many of the initiatives taking place at the Department of Agriculture and how important this generation of farmers is to the industry.

"It's important to develop a pipeline to the next generation of agriculture leaders and no one does it better than KFB," he said. "When people transition from post-high school or college into a farming occupation, they need mentorship. I'm proud to see the Young Farmer program develop this pipeline to develop our leaders in this state."

Quarles also said, in giving advice to these young farm families, to listen to their elders who have already faced many of challenges that face farmers. He pointed out that young farmers should pay attention to issues going on in Frankfort and Washington and participate in those

discussions because, "if you don't speak up, you get left out."

Young farmers in Kentucky likely have better opportunities than their counterparts in other states thanks to the investments made over the last 20 years, especially from ag development funds.

In addition to the fund, Quarles mentioned the opportunities afforded by the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation (KAFC).

"We have strategic tools that other states don't have to help young people get their operations off the ground," he said. "Personally I think KAFC is a national model that should be replicated because not only does half our loan portfolio benefit young farmers but it also gives them additional credit counseling so they can qualify for these low interest loans."

One of the most important events of the Young Farmer Summer Outing came during the annual Eggs and Issues Breakfast. Members gathered by district after the meal to discuss topics specific to their areas as part of the policy development process.

Wesley Estes, from Logan County participates in his county's Young Farmer program, is a member of his local FB Board, an ag-ed student at Western Kentucky University and a



Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles

former FFA State President. He said his involvement in the YF program began after his junior year in high school.

"I really fell in love with the program especially after going to the YF Outing in Pikeville. At the local level, I try to help out with fund raising events and community service projects; really, it's about whatever they want, I just try to show up and help out any way I can," he said.

Estes, who represents a fourth generation on the family farm, said the common thread whether a young farmer grows crops or raises livestock is that they all love agriculture.

"I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world. But farming isn't just something you wake up to one day and say I'm going to be good at this. There's a lot more to it than that," he said. "I see many young people that want to get involved but may not necessarily have a chance to because of the expense. But that is something we got to listen to in the discussion meets; ideas to help get these young people involved."

The discussion meets Estes spoke of are a KFB tradition at the Summer Outing and participants take part in a panel dialogue-type atmosphere talking about different ag-related issues. Each participant is scored by a panel of judges. The top four will participate at the state competition held during the KFB annual meeting.

This year's finalists included Miranda Chaplin of Bourbon County, Taylor Jones of Gallatin County, Lilly Robertson of Logan County, and Cody Rakes of Marion County.



Young farm families discuss farm issues in their districts.

The other big announcement made each year during the outing is the naming of the three farm families that will participate in the KFB Young Farm Family of the Year competition. The winner will also be announced during annual meeting. This year, those three finalists are Nicholas and Bethany Hardesty of Meade County, Matt and Amanda Gajdzik of Shelby County, and Ben and Katie Furnish

of Harrison County.

KFB Young Farmer Advisory Committee Chair Zack Ison of Mercer County summarized the outing saying how important it is for these young farmers to get together in this type of setting.

"It's an opportunity to network and sit down together to discuss policy issues and develop different topics to present to KFB," he said.

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The 2017 Beef Tour group

## 2017 John C. Hendricks Beef Tour

This year's John C. Hendricks Beef Tour took attending KFB members to the West including Idaho, Wyoming and Utah to view some of the biggest and best cattle operations/businesses in that part of the country.

Fritz Giesecke, KFB Second Vice President, is a cattle producer from Hart County and serves as chair of the Beef Cattle Advisory Committee. He said as strong as the cattle industry is in Kentucky, it's always good to see other operations in different areas of the country as a learning opportunity.

"We take pride in the advances Kentucky cattle producers have made in moving our state to a level of national recognition but we can always learn from our fellow producers throughout the country," he said. "This tour gives us that opportunity to learn new ideas we could possibly use on our own farms."

Giesecke also said the tour allows cattle producers to build relationships with other producers which can be beneficial for years to come.

A few of the stops for Beef Tour attendees included CS Beef Packers, a state of the art beef processing facility in Kuna, Idaho; Simplot Land and Livestock, a diverse agri-business that includes custom beef and dairy feeding, located in Grandview, Idaho; Snake River Cattle Feeders, a cattle feeding operation located in American Falls, Idaho; and HD Dunn and Sons Angus Ranch, located in Tetonia, Idaho.

This year marked the 12th for the Beef Tour named after former KFB First Vice-President John C. Hendricks who

also served as the chair of the KFB Beef Cattle Advisory Committee. He knew the value of educational opportunities and how the knowledge gained on these tours would benefit producers here. The tour is named to honor his memory.

For many members, the trip has become an annual event, but there were some first-time attendees to this year's tour. Danielle Milbern, the Fayette County Young Farmer Chair, was one of the members making her first Beef Tour trip. She said the experience presented many good ideas to take back to her family's beef cattle operation.

"I found the tour to be very educational and I have many ideas I want to bring back to our farm," she said. "I've grown up in the beef cattle business and now that I'm old enough to play a bigger role in our operation, learning opportunities such as this one are invaluable."

Milbern also said that as a new generation becomes involved in agriculture, the KFB Beef Tour not

only allows these young farmers to see operations in different places but learn from the networking opportunities made available on the trip.

Tim Goodlett, Casey County Farm Bureau President, has made the trip many times but said he always learns something new each year.

"I've been around long enough to have seen our cattle industry grow, in this state, to one of the best in the country but there is constantly something new we can learn as producers to make our operations better," he said. "I always bring back many ideas to try and share with our county producers after each of the Beef Tours I have attended."

KFB Tours are an integral part of the organization's efforts to assist members, and sponsor partners are critical in making these tours possible. This year Farm Credit Mid America helped KFB sponsor the John C. Hendricks Beef Tour.



Beef Tour attendees visited several livestock-related facilities.



Teacher Workshop participants took part in hands-on activities and educational tours.

## KFB Teacher Workshops

### Continue a Commitment to Education

Kentucky Farm Bureau has long been a big supporter of education at all levels. Each summer, teacher workshops are held throughout the state to give educators a lesson in incorporating agriculture into their classroom activities as an integral part of that support.

A total of six workshops were held this summer in various locations providing hands-on activities and materials for teachers to take back to the classroom. There were also educational presenters at each workshop who brought new ideas, based on agriculture, to those attending this year's series of workshops.

"Our hope is to educate teachers and demonstrate to them how they incorporate agriculture into their classroom; teach core content in math, science and social studies through the real-life application of agriculture," said Scott Christmas, KFB Director of Agricultural Education and Women's Programs.

#### FROM A TEACHER'S PERSPECTIVE

Janella Miller, from Pulaski County has done just that. She has attended several of these workshops in the past and is an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Pulaski County High School. Miller teaches courses for the Horticulture, Animal Science and Environmental/Natural Resources pathways and began her career teaching science for two years.

"I have been to Farm Bureau teacher workshops three times, and used the curriculum in both science and agriculture classroom settings. At each workshop I experienced lessons and activities as the students would and brought home digital and hard copy materials to add to my lesson plans," she said. "The curriculum is very easy to incorporate into core content and career and technical content. When teaching science, I could relate concepts to the food and fiber industry and in the agriculture classroom I can use the information to demonstrate real farm examples and consumer food demands and expectations."

Miller feels that educating students about the potential for careers in agriculture, the diversity of the industry, and the truths about where their food comes from prepares them to function in society.

"At this level in their education, they are developing ideas about how they will function for the rest of their life and confidence in agriculture and the part they will play in the world food supply is a huge component," she said.

This year workshop sessions were divided into elementary and middle/high school curriculum. Miller brought her sister who is a kindergarten teacher and said both were able to experience lessons appropriate for their respective classrooms.

"Students taught basic information about where their food comes from are

able to make connections and begin to build positive impressions about the producers who grow and raise their food," she said.

One thing that has made these workshops so successful is referrals to other teachers by those who have attended in the past. Miller has been an advocate for the KFB Teacher Workshops encouraged other teachers in other content areas and in agriculture to attend.

"Those who attend generally return again. I have talked about the workshop (held this year) at Spindle Top many times this summer as I have traveled to other Farm Bureau and teacher events," said Miller. "I have recommended this professional development event to my administrators and I think they should be encouraged to attend at least once so they can witness firsthand the kinds of activities available as a flexible professional development choice."

Ultimately, at the end of the day what really matters to teachers is their students. Miller said her students enjoy hearing about her experience in these workshops.

"I believe they appreciate when I bring new ideas in my classroom and share connections I have made in my inquiry experience," she said. "Guest speakers at these workshops many times offer to come to your classroom, and students really respond to someone in the industry talking with them about their expertise."



# Kentucky Wheat

When discussing grain crop production in Kentucky, soybeans and corn generally get most of the attention, and with a combined worth of about \$1.5 billion in cash receipts, it is understandable. But wheat production in the Commonwealth has proven to be very valuable in its own right as a grain and cover crop, as well as for silage and hay. In fact, what may come as somewhat of a surprise to non-wheat producers and those outside of the state is,

Kentucky wheat production has hovered near record levels for the last five years and the Commonwealth has proven to be one of the better yielding wheat states in the country, said Chad Lee, director of the University of Kentucky Grain and Forage Center for Excellence. Last year's crop was indeed a record and while production totals were down this year, the 2017 wheat harvest has looked good considering a spring freeze that producers thought would cause severe damage, said Lee. But

that was not the case, for the most part, and, as of the July National Agricultural Statistics Service's Kentucky Field Office report, yields were forecast to be around 77 bushels per acres. If that estimate holds true, it would represent the second highest yield on record. Lee notes that the state is in a unique location for wheat production in that double crop soybeans can be planted after the wheat harvest as part of a total rotation which includes soybeans and corn. That rotation has proven to be valuable to producers on many levels. "This rotation does several things for us; one, it helps us hedge against our bets in terms of when we get bad weather or we get good weather, so it's a buffer that way. Secondly, it helps with cash flow. If you're a grain farmer and you are harvesting all your crops in the fall, it makes cash flow more difficult," he said. "If you have a wheat crop in that rotation it helps with cash flow, mid-season. Finally, a lot of our research tells us it's a really good system for our soils; maybe the best system we've got, for our soils that can handle wheat, in our grains rotation." From a dollars and cents point of view, Lee said wheat prices like other commodity prices has been up and down but overall it remains profitable long-term in the rotation. Mike Spencer, a producer from Franklin County, had a good wheat crop this year, and sees it as a very diverse kind of crop in addition to being good for his crop rotation. "We averaged almost 73 bushels an acre but we came out with about 70 bales per acre of wheat straw," he said. "I'm not sure why, but there has been a big demand for the straw this year." For Spencer, who did not plant soybeans behind his wheat harvest this year, he was able to use the same crop in two ways. "It worked out well for us. There are a lot of horse farms that want the straw and I have worked with a utility company this year that needed the straw," he said. Until recently, Spencer also raised burley tobacco. He said the wheat, as a cover crop, worked well especially in

helping with moisture retention in the soil. "It helps with preventing soil erosion and for those who plow it under for tobacco, it really helps to keep the moisture in the soil," he said. "There are a lot good uses for wheat." As grain crops production continues to be so valuable to Kentucky producers, the new UK Forage and Grain Center of Excellence promises to be a driving force in research and economic development not only for farmers in this state but for the forage and grain industry across the country. Kentucky Farm Bureau has supported Center and made it one of its priority issues. "We are extremely excited and humbled that we are seeing such progress made at the Center and looking at somewhere around January when we might break ground," said Lee. "We are also attracting young talent, something that is important because, as we have learned from the legacy left to us by great researchers in the past, that new, young talent is critical if we are going to do relevant things to help producers in the next generation." To borrow a sports analogy, wheat has become quite the utility player in



Kentucky's agriculture industry. Tobacco producers use it as a cover crop, dairy producers use it as a silage crop and grain producers are making their land and bottom lines better by including it in their crop rotations. And with an economic impact of approximately half a billion dollars, wheat will likely stay in the game for a long time to come.

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# Markets

## HOG INDUSTRY SETS 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER RECORDS

USDA in its latest Quarterly Hogs and Pigs Report noted several hog production records were established in the second quarter (March - May) of 2017. These records followed in the wake of similar record highs set for first-quarter production estimates. Production in each quarter period of the year will vary due to seasonality factors. The U.S. hog inventory on June 1, 2017, of 71.7 million head was the highest June 1 inventory since USDA began estimates in 1964. A similar record high for June 1 was established for market hog inventory at 65.6 million head, which was up four percent from a year ago. The March-May 2017 pig crop of 32.26 million head was the second largest March-May pig crop since estimates began in 1970 – the same year the record-large pig crop was produced. This year's second-quarter pig crop estimate is only 0.3 percent shy of the 1970 record. One factor contributing to the near-record pig crop was a record-high estimate for the average pigs saved per litter for any second quarter since 1970 – the average number of pigs saved of 10.55 for the March-May period compared to 10.48 last year. The best performing states (of the 16 reported) for pigs saved per litter included Nebraska at 11.45 pigs, Minnesota at 11.40 pigs and South Dakota with 11.35 pigs saved.

## RED MEAT AND POULTRY PER CAPITA USE GROWING

Positive changes in 2018 per capita beef, pork, and poultry disappearance are expected to be driven largely by production increases, but also by changes in trade. For beef, the 1.3-percent increase in per capita disappearance to 57.9 pounds is the result of a 2.2-percent increase in the 2018 production forecast, together with stronger beef imports (2.9 percent larger than the 2017 forecast) and a 1.9-percent increase in beef exports. The 1.7-percent change in the pork per capita in 2018 – to 50.9 pounds, the largest per capita disappearance since 2004 – is expected even though exports are forecast to increase 3.8 percent next year. The expected 3.5-percent pork industry expansion next year drives the expected increase in per capita pork disappearance. The broiler meat per capita disappearance increase – 1.3 percent to 91.3 pounds – is due to anticipated production growth of 1.9 percent plus a small increase in exports (+0.8 percent). The turkey per capita in 2018 is expected to increase 1.1 percent to 17 pounds. The increase in turkey per capita is anticipated even though turkey exports are expected to increase 7.8 percent in 2018. Lamb and mutton per capita disappearance is expected to decline 1.7 percent, however, due to a small decline in production and a small increase in exports.

## U.S. PLANTS RECORD CANOLA ACREAGE

U.S. farmers planted a record 2.2 million acres of canola for 2017/18, exceeding their March planting intentions by 234,000 acres. Most of the additional acreage occurred in North Dakota, where farmers sowed a record 1.7 million acres. In Montana and Oklahoma, canola acreage more than doubled this year. The acreage expansion for canola could boost 2017/18 production to a record 3.6 billion pounds. While abundant canola supplies in 2017/18 may moderate U.S. imports, rising demand for oil and meal could swell the domestic crush to nearly 4.85 billion pounds from 4.4 billion in 2016/17.

## MILK PER COW SETS JUNE RECORD

Milk production in the 23 major States during June totaled 16.9 billion pounds, up 1.7 percent from June 2016. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,939 pounds for June, 13 pounds above June 2016. This is the highest production per cow for the month of June since the 23-State series began in 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 States was 8.73 million head, 83,000 head more than June 2016, and 4,000 head more than May 2017.

# COUNTY CORNER

Snapshots of County Farm Bureau activities



## BOONE COUNTY

Boone County FB hosted a legislative appreciation evening on July 24. Sen. Schikel, Rep. Wuchner and Rep. Santoro were in attendance along with County Judge Gary Moore.



## BOURBON COUNTY

Bourbon County Farm Bureau's BBQ cook off was held July 8. Pictured from left are; front row: Anna Marsh, Kayla Rankin and Savannah Robin, Pictured from left: back row: Micah Campbell, Jeff Carter and Logan Carter.



## BOYD COUNTY

Boyd County Agency Manager Bryan Carroll, Boyd County President Ray Sammons, Boyd County VP Mike Dixon and District 10 Director David McGlone handed out t-shirts to 4-H and FFA students at the Boyd County Fair.



## BRACKEN COUNTY

Bracken County FB had a picnic dinner to honor their two state scholarship winners this year.



## CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Bracken County FB had a picnic dinner to honor their two state scholarship winners this year.



## FAYETTE COUNTY

Fayette County Farm Bureau's Ladies Day Out, Health & Wellness event held May 20.



## FRANKLIN COUNTY

Franklin County Farm City Day. Pictured From left: Court of Appeals Judge Robert Johnson, Danielle Hockensmith, Franklin County Farm Bureau Paul Gray scholarship winner, Sharon Spencer, and Tatum Dale Field representative for Congressman Andy Barr.



## LYON COUNTY

Pictured are Glen Kinder, VP Lyon Co FB; Angela Magney, Lyon FB Board Member and panelist; and Kim White, Agency Manager Lyon Co FB. The three attended the LAND (Linking Agriculture for Networking and Development) meeting that was held at the UK Research Center in Princeton.



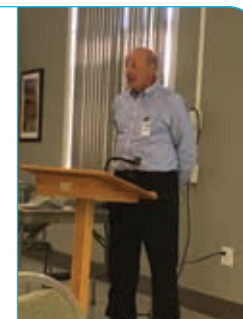
## MERCER COUNTY

Mercer County Farm Bureau hosted a member appreciation day cookout for their customers on June 2. There were over 250 people in attendance and 29 vendors including the Air Evac Lifeteam helicopter.



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County Director Danny Townsend discussed his Sorghum Operation during a recent conference hosted by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Townsend was a member of a working panel for "Linking Agriculture for Networking & Development."



## ROWAN COUNTY

Rowan County Farm Bureau members lining up to taste some tasty fish at this years annual fish fry.



## SHELBY COUNTY

Shelby County FB Legislative Appreciation Picnic at Red Orchard Park.

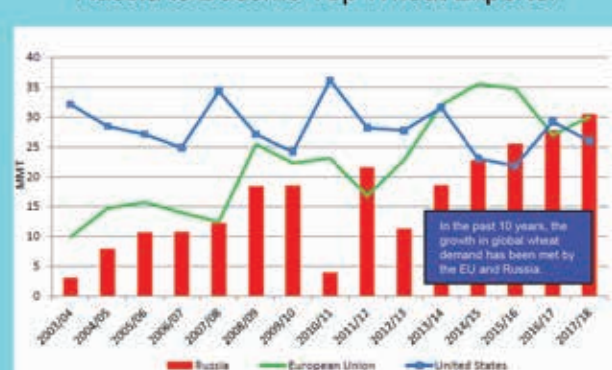


## WOODFORD COUNTY

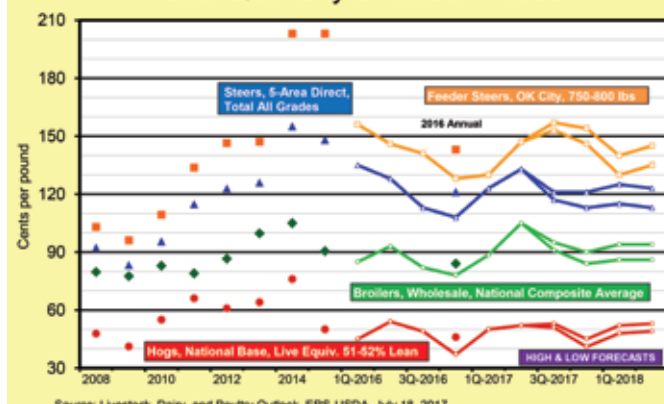
Woodford County Farm Tour. Pictured from left: Ethan Witt, field representative for Sen. McConnell; Austin Wingate, Woodford County agent; Mark Lyle, KFB APD; Courtney Roberts, Woodford County Agency Manager; Mike Cocanougher, Woodford County Vice-President.



### Russia to Become Top Wheat Exporter



### U.S. Quarterly Livestock Prices





CANDID CONVERSATION

Warren Beeler, Executive Director, Governor’s Office of Agricultural Policy

KFB Candid Conversation presents a discussion about the topical issues facing the agricultural industry in a question and answer format with a member of the agricultural community. In this column, Warren Beeler, executive director of the Governor’s Office of Agricultural Policy and one of the most recognized ag leaders in the state discusses his efforts to advocate for the industry and the difference agriculture development funds have made in Kentucky.

**What is the primary role of GOAP?**  
*We are actually in the application-taking business; administration and compliance for the tobacco settlement fund. As such, we don’t decide who gets the money but we prepare people to go before committees and at the state level to present projects. With the Master Settlement funds, Kentucky put half in healthcare and half into agriculture. We have now invested over half a billion dollars into agriculture and gone from \$3.7 billion in cash receipts, with tobacco being a fourth of that amount to basically \$6 billion, so don’t tell me it hasn’t worked. It’s worked like a dream and has been an investment in growing agriculture in all segments. This money is meant to be impactful for farmers and help farmers help themselves.*

**What kind of difference has the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund made to the state’s ag industry?**  
*It’s helped agriculture do a better job and encouraged farmers to invest and it’s amazing what we have seen. In 1998 when this money showed up, we had 46,000 tobacco farms. Now we have less than 4,600. But we have grown this industry and it’s easy to see how it’s working. We’ve done a really good job of expanding and are really good stewards of the land, water and caretakers of the animals better than we’ve ever done it; we’ve never done agriculture so well*



*and this tobacco money is responsible for a lot of that progress. We’ve had four governors and all the legislators who have let this money work and we have helped in every county. Agriculture here is bigger, better, more efficient, and with better stewardship because of KADF.*

**What is the one thing you want to convey to the many audiences you speak to each year?**  
*Farmers do such a good job in terms of producing at a high level, that people in the grocery stores who get four or five different varieties of everything, they take it for granted. My position is to make people understand that we do agriculture better than at any time in history, doing more with less. We*

*do such a good job of farming but we do a pitiful job of telling it, so I take that on in my role. I tell people we are not the same as in the days of following mules behind a plow. We do extensive soil testing; we use GPS to be more efficient in planting; managing nutrients and doing it better and learning something every day and we will keep getting better.*

**How important is it to get the next generation involved in the agriculture industry?**  
*The next generation is where it’s at. We need geneticists because there will come day when we need to identify every gene in plants and animals; we have to have engineers as we look at GPS equipment as well as new*

*all kinds of new technology, also for environmental needs to produce more with less. We lost 22 million acres of farmland in the last 10 years. We’ve got to go inside with greenhouses; learn how we go from 200 bushel corn to 400 in terms of feeding a population that is going to be eight or nine billion by 2050. The average age of the farmer*

**Farmers do such a good job in terms of producing at a high level, that people in the grocery stores who get four or five different varieties of everything, they take it for granted. My position is to make people understand that we do agriculture better than at any time in history, doing more with less.**

-Warren Beeler

*is 62 so we’ve got to have the young people. The questions to be answered are, how do we instill the passion in them of loving agriculture and how do we get those folks, those Governor’s Scholars students into this system? We need them.*

**What do we say about misconceptions and knowing the “real facts” about agriculture?**  
*We have a terrible perception problem. When you think of agriculture, many think of some old farmer with tobacco juice running down his chin and in overalls. That’s not the way it is. It is big business and a business that takes a tremendous amount of knowledge. We’re talking about science and math. We have to figure out how to change those incorrect perceptions. We have to figure out how to make it attractive to these brilliant young people and get them involved. And how we make agriculture the in-*

*thing like computer engineering and computer software. We do that every day in agriculture, just no one knows about it. We do a great job farming, we don’t do a great job of telling people about it even when it comes to telling each other in different ag sectors. We have a lot of people however attacking our methods and such and I don’t have much time for that to be honest. How in the world can we farm and mistreat animals; you won’t last any time. How can we farm, mistreating the soil; you won’t last two years. So, everything we have to do in agriculture has to be sustainable. You can’t do it any other way. And I’m wearing the roads out telling people about it.*

**When Warren Beeler retires to the farm in Caneyville, what message do you hope to have conveyed?**  
*“We have to quit thinking this thing called agriculture ends at the trailer gate. Tobacco money gives us a chance to experiment. Ultimately farmers have to make a profit and we in GOAP are trying to figure out what can we do to help, not only with new ideas but with extended ownership of what we already do. We sell corn and we need to be selling ethanol; we don’t sell wheat, we sell biscuits; we don’t sell cabbage, we sell coleslaw in a bag; extend it and let the farmers get a piece of that. We need to grow agriculture. That is what this office is all about and we have the money to do it*

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## Down the Backroads

By Tim Thornberry

I remember my first major mode of transportation that was not a farm implement. It was the coolest 10-speed bicycle I had ever seen at the time. I was 15 years old and in those days, a 10 speed bike was the newest craze in adolescent transportation. One summer before reaching the legal age of driving an automobile, it would turn out to be my way of getting to a number of school-related events taking place in our nearby town.

Our farmhouse was located about two miles from the city limits and the road between there and the farm was the only highway available to get from one to the other.

To be safe, my dad equipped the bike with a tall red flag pole attached to the back wheel, a rearview mirror and the all-important water bottle and I was set to go. Over the course of that summer and almost every day, when I wasn't doing other chores, I rode that bike down that road to my many destinations.

It was an easy "drive" for the most part and I took in sights along the road I had never paid attention to from the back seat of a car.

Our neighbor's farm was always busy with activities and I could see their hay field and tobacco patch from the road. I never realized how colorful the land was until then and often I would come along about the same time one of their tractors had made it to the end of their drive.

Another neighbor operated a "fruit stand" as my mother called it, selling fresh produce from her garden. I never noticed it either before the bike came along.

Some days the road was empty

except for me and an occasional car or truck. Other days it was busy with farmers making their way into town or supply trucks making their way out of town. Farm tractors were often the main vehicles found on that stretch of highway.

I remember one day, the road being closed for repair work stopping me and everyone else traveling that way in our tracks. I never realized how important it was until it wasn't available.

That road is still the main thoroughfare in that part of the country

and more often than not, you'll see a tractor or two traveling through pulling a wagon of hay of freshly cut tobacco. The folks that live there now rely on it as much as I did so many years ago.

While 10 speed bikes may not be the chosen form of transportation these days, it served me well as did that country road. Those highways are so important to so many for so many reasons.

I can't imagine what life would be like without them, as we travel down those backroads.



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# U.S. BEEF GOING TO CHINA AND NAFTA RENEGOTIATIONS:

Is this the beginning of good trade news?

With the announcement of an agreement that is taking U.S. beef into mainland China for the first time since 2003, the agriculture industry has breathed somewhat of a sigh of relief. Trade issues have been a concern for farm families and ag organizations since the Trump administration announced the demise of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) and a renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA.)

The beef exports are part of a larger trade initiative including other industries and financial services known as the U.S.-China 100-Day Action plan originally announced on May 11, 2017 by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross and Secretary of the Treasury Steven T. Mnuchin.

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said, as part of a statement released in June, that he has no doubt that as soon as the Chinese people get a taste of American beef they'll want more of it.

That's what local cattle producers all across the country, as well as in Kentucky are hoping for. Kentucky Farm Bureau Second Vice-President Fritz Giesecke said state cattle operations depend on exports to maintain their bottom lines.

"We are in a global market now and local producers need agreements like the one with China to keep their farms sustainable as well as to provide the necessary food that will be needed to feed a growing world population," he said.

Giesecke, who is a cattle producer, chair of the KFB Beef Cattle Advisory Committee and member of the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) Board of Directors, also said the export markets to countries like Japan and South Korea so far this year have been strong and he would like to see this trend continue.

Dan Halstrom, the senior vice-president of global marketing with

USMEF said that organization is excited about the reopening of US Beef into mainland China after an absence of nearly 14 years.

"We want to thank our U.S. government officials for their ongoing efforts in regards to China Beef access and we look forward to the opportunity to reestablish the US Beef presence in China. That being said it is important to note that the market-opening agreement includes requirements that will involve a period of adjustment for the U.S. industry," he said. "Adhering to these requirements will add cost and this will mean that U.S. beef is valued at a premium compared to other suppliers in the market. However, we are of the opinion there is definite demand in China for the high value grain fed U.S. beef and we look forward to further developing this segment of the China Market and working with buyers and the trade to develop a true understanding of the value and taste experience with U.S. beef."

David Salmonsens, Senior Director of Congressional Relations with the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) said re-opening the beef market in China could prove to be big since the Chinese import over \$2 billion of beef annually.

"Any share of that market would be welcome and certainly we expect it to grow over time," he said. "What's interesting about China is they will take the high end cuts, of course, but they will also take things we have a harder time selling here, so I think the beef industry is very excited about that and this is definitely a good start, getting more U.S. ag products into China."

While the China deal is a bright spot in the trade picture, the farm community is hoping new and/or existing trade agreements are created, stay intact or are enhanced in a positive way.

There was some hope that a U.S./Cuba relationship, agriculturally, could

begin. However, that idea may be facing the same fate as TPP. Also, Salmonsens pointed out a desire to begin new talks with Japan, a country that would have figured prominently in a TPP agreement.

"Most of the market access gains we had in TTP were with Japan and that is sort of under discussion. No formal negotiations have begun yet but the countries are talking," he said.

Renegotiating NAFTA is another big discussion topic currently taking place in the trade arena and is something U.S. agriculture was not calling for at all, noted Salmonsens.

"Now that's it's here however, we've got two main points; one is, by the old expectation of do no harm, NAFTA has been very good for overall U.S. ag exports to Canada and Mexico. We went from about \$8 billion in annual exports to those countries in 1993, the year before NAFTA, to over \$38 billion, now," he said. "And they export a lot more to us."

Salmonsens added that trade between the three countries is very good not only for agricultural goods but many others, as well. So new tariffs and/or barriers are not issues farmers want to face when it comes to tweaking NAFTA. However, there are some things that could be looked at, some of which have been pointed out to the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) including the continued high tariffs on U.S. dairy and poultry products into Canada.

"There are some issues to be worked on but the biggest thing is to make sure we don't erect new barriers," he said.

The USTR recently announced a summary of the negotiating objectives for NAFTA renegotiations. Specifically, the summary of objectives pertaining to agricultural goods included:

- Maintain existing reciprocal duty-free market access for agricultural goods.
- Expand competitive market

opportunities for U.S. agricultural goods in NAFTA countries, substantially equivalent to the competitive opportunities afforded foreign exports into the U.S. market, by reducing or eliminating remaining tariffs.

- Seek to eliminate non-tariff barriers to U.S. agricultural exports including discriminatory barriers, restrictive administration of tariff rate quotas, other unjustified measures that unfairly limit access to markets for U.S. goods, such as cross subsidization, price discrimination, and price undercutting.
- Provide reasonable adjustment periods for U. S. import sensitive agricultural products, engaging in close consultation with Congress on such products before initiating tariff reduction negotiations.
- Promote greater regulatory compatibility to reduce burdens associated with unnecessary differences in regulation, including through regulatory cooperation where appropriate.

In a recent statement from AFBF President Zippy Duvall regarding those objectives, he said while tremendous success with NAFTA has been seen, there is still room for improvement.

"We need to address challenges that remain for our fruit and vegetable, dairy, and row crop and wheat farmers, and ensure all our farmers are free to get their products to market under modern and science-based standards," he said. "A modernized NAFTA can work for all of U.S. agriculture by building on the strong trading partnerships we've established over the last two decades."

Duvall also noted, in the statement, "The North American Free Trade agreement has helped America's farmers and ranchers make significant gains in U.S. ag exports to Canada and Mexico, and the administration's negotiating objectives for the agreement will maintain and improve agricultural trade with our nearest trading partners. We look forward to expanding our market opportunities with our North American neighbors even further by bringing this agreement into the 21st century."

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Artist rendering courtesy of UK.

# Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation

## Donates \$1 Million to UK’s Grain and Forage Center of Excellence

In continuing its long-standing support of the University of Kentucky (UK) College of Agriculture, Food and Environment’s Research and Education Center at Princeton, the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation’s (KFBF) Board of Directors voted, during its last meeting, to donate a total of \$1 million to initiatives at the

facility’s new Grain and Forage Center of Excellence. The money will go toward two specific projects at the center; \$500,000 will be provided over a five-year period for the naming rights of the main entrance once the new facility has been completed and an additional \$500,000, paid over a five-year period, will

support a statewide Water Resources initiative targeted at enhancing water management as part of the ongoing research efforts at the center. KFBF President Mark Haney said making this investment will not only help with the many research endeavors at the facility, but will benefit Kentucky’s agriculture industry, as a whole.

“Since the Princeton research program was established in 1924, Kentucky Farm Bureau has been supportive of its efforts in research and development projects and programs that have helped our agriculture industry in this state become the nearly \$6 billion business it is and a national leader in agricultural initiatives,” he said. “While the center’s name includes grains and forages, there is likely not a single agriculture sector in Kentucky that has not benefited from the work conducted there and the new facility will undoubtedly become a model in ag research efforts.”

Haney also noted that as KFBF has stepped to the plate in its support of the facility, he looks forward to and encourages other Kentucky ag partners to be supportive, as well.

UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Dean Nancy Cox said it takes partnerships to make the idea of a facility like the Grain and Forage Center of Excellence to become a reality.

“Our research succeeds when it has valuable partners such as Kentucky Farm Bureau. Together we have the goal of improving the Kentucky economy

by promoting advanced technologies and useful practices through research and extension efforts,” she said. “Both of our organizations likewise depend on partnerships with commodity organizations and producers to guide us to the right solutions. The network of ag-related partners we have in this great state is second to none and have helped UK become a world leader in agriculture research.”

KFBF Executive Vice-President David S. Beck said an investment in this project really becomes an investment in economic development for the farming communities across the state.

“The difference a facility like the Grain and Forage Center of Excellence can make in the sustainability of all family farms becomes a factor in the overall economic well-being of our rural communities,” he said. “When the farming community is successful so is the business community and that is something that is beneficial to all Kentuckians. The economic impact agriculture creates in the Commonwealth is more than \$45 billion and this investment approved by our board demonstrates our commitment to improve net farm income and improve our state’s overall economy.”

Dr. Chad Lee, UK grain crops specialist and center director said Kentucky’s grain and forage industries have grown tremendously over the past two decades and the investments made in the Grain and Forage Center of Excellence will move those ag sectors forward as Kentucky’s agriculture industry continues to diversify.

“We have seen such big changes in our industry in the last 20 years and that diversification effort continues especially with our grain and forage producers,” he said. “The research being conducted at Princeton and across Kentucky has been a huge contributor to those advances and we know this new center will continue that legacy. We can’t thank partners like Kentucky Farm Bureau enough for their investments and their continued support of this facility.”

The KFBF board’s vote was unanimous with Dean Cox abstaining. More information about the UK Grain and Forage Center of Excellence can be found at <https://gfce.ca.uky.edu/>.



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