

All Around Kentucky

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU FEDERATION



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SECRETARIAT ENTERING ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME



Photo courtesy of secretariat.com

TRIPLE CROWN WINNER SECRETARIAT, WHOSE RECORD FOR THE FASTEST TIME IN THE KENTUCKY DERBY STILL STANDS 34 YEARS LATER, IS THE ONLY THOROUGHBRED NAMED TO A KENTUCKY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME CLASS.

By Rachael Kamuf
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

The first Kentucky Farm Bureau Athlete of the Year awards will be handed to two young prep stars when legendary sports figures of the past and present are inducted into the Kentucky Athletic Hall of Fame.

Receiving the hand-blown glass trophies as the state's top male and female high school athletes will be Kentucky's Mr. Football, Louisville Male High school standout Douglas Beaumont, and Scott

County High School' Rebecca Gray, the leading contender for the Miss Basketball title that will be announced in mid-April.

More new ground will be broken when the 2007 class of the Hall of Fame – sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance Cos. - is introduced on May 2.

The induction ceremonies for the Hall of Fame, which previously had been held in the fall, are now a part of the Kentucky Derby Festival events held in Louisville in the weeks leading up to the Run for the Roses.

See HALL OF FAME, page 14

Gently used KFB computer systems recycled for farms

By Rachael Kamuf
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Wayne Hollon has joined the computer age with a little help from Kentucky Farm Bureau.

Using a system that once was dedicated to insurance transactions, Hollon now has a computerized program to highlight the pedigree, age and condition of each of the 200 head of Angus cattle grazing on his farm near Gravel Switch.

"We can print out our sheet of information and give it to potential buyers," Hollon said. "It is so much faster than when we had to write down everything."

See COMPUTERS, page 22

“Drop Your Cholesterol Like a Hot Potato!”



(By Frank K. Wood)

If you suffer from age-related diseases such as elevated cholesterol, arthritis, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, or memory problems, you need *1,001 Home Health Secrets for Seniors*. From natural remedies for arthritis to how to avoid falls in your home, it's in this book and written especially with seniors in mind.

- ▶ Flatten your tummy in your sleep!
- ▶ Overweight? Chew this and lose those excess pounds!
- ▶ Unclog your arteries while sipping this amazing tea!
- ▶ Enjoying this tasty and popular nut can help cut your cholesterol by 20 points without medication! Documented at a cardiac research center in California.
- ▶ Is it possible to reverse heart disease naturally in 365 days or less? In eight out of every 10 patients studied, “The arteries that had been clogged were clean. The blood vessels started looking clean and clear as they did before they developed heart disease.”
- ▶ This cheap, easy-to-get, home remedy pill might be the “vaccine” that prevents deadly Alzheimer’s disease!
- ▶ Raise your metabolism and drop pounds with this nutritional supplement.
- ▶ This arthritis-friendly diet not only eases your

pain ... but helps you lose weight and live longer, too!

- ▶ Get your blood pressure in the healthy range and keep it there — without dangerous drugs.
- ▶ Lower high cholesterol and help prevent colon cancer! Just spread this on your toast!
- ▶ If you take this common pill every day, you could add years to your life! The medical evidence is mounting!
- ▶ You can help your brain stay young by doing these two things.
- ▶ Lower back pain? This treatment was rated most effective by 91% of the people who tried it.
- ▶ “Miracle” memory improver — it’s in your kitchen, scientists say, and it tastes great!
- ▶ Cholesterol levels plummet with this nutty cure!
- ▶ Crunch your way to lower blood pressure. Researchers have found a chemical in celery that opens your blood vessels.
- ▶ The warning signs of low cholesterol! The startling truth revealed.
- ▶ Embarrassed by a leaky bladder? After using these natural techniques, you’ll be singing, “How dry I am!”
- ▶ Defeat diabetes with this amazingly simple and easy non-prescription treatment.

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“When You Should NEVER Eat RICE!”



(By Frank K. Wood)

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- ▶ Liquefy cancer-causing substances in your body and then just wash them away! How? Just use this flavorful favorite when you cook!
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- ▶ Blood sugar control on the half-shell! Find out why diabetics should eat more shellfish.
- ▶ Secret nutrient in potatoes may help lower blood pressure! Just make sure you cook them this way!
- ▶ Creamy-crunchy pick-me-up ... this offbeat side dish can help re-energize you and perk up your meals!
- ▶ Migraine misery could be history if you snack on this movie-time treat!
- ▶ Anti-clotting power ... just sprinkle them on salads

or munch them by the handful and watch your blood pressure plummet!

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- ▶ Fight colon inflammation with this Japanese secret! People with Crohn’s disease need to read this!

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“HONEY Can Heal WHAT?”



(By Frank K. Wood)

If you want to learn how to use gentle folk remedies to unleash your body’s healing power instead of resorting to dangerous prescription drugs or risky surgery, you need *The Folk Remedy Encyclopedia: Olive Oil, Vinegar, Honey and 1,001 Other Home Remedies*, an informative new book just released to the public by FC&A Medical Publishing® in Peachtree City, Georgia.

You’ll be amazed by how many inexpensive, easy, natural cures you can find all around you — in your pantry, garden, garage, and grocery store. The authors provide many health tips with full explanations.

- ▶ One super vitamin protects your vision, fights infections, keeps skin, bones, and cells healthy, plus fights heart disease, cancer, memory loss, arthritis, liver disease, Parkinson’s, and complications of diabetes. Are you getting 100%?
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▶ You can improve your eyesight without glasses, without contact lenses, surgery, drugs, or medicine of any kind.

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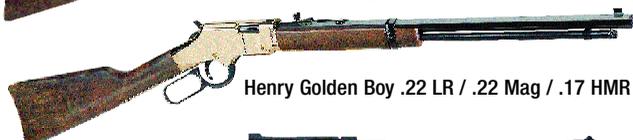
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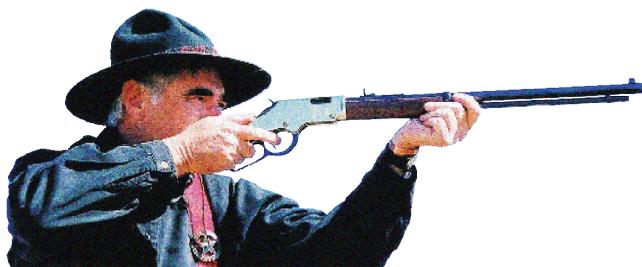
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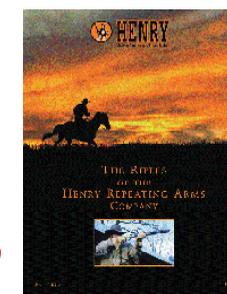
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Protecting environment is a standard farming technique

KENTUCKY grassroots



MARSHAL COYLE | PRESIDENT | KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

April 22 marks the annual observation of Earth Day, the one day of the year when Americans are asked to reflect on how they can protect our natural resources. People from all walks of life will participate in various events and activities designed to draw attention to environmental issues.

While farmers certainly appreciate the importance of the occasion, they tend to

keep a low profile. That's because a one-day commemoration of "environmentalism" doesn't really captivate them. For farmers, taking care of natural resources is part of their work every day of the year.

Perhaps no one has more invested in a clean environment than farmers.

The earth is their livelihood, and they have a tremendous incentive to protect it. Most farmers are committed to farming for life and hope their children will follow in their footsteps. Therefore, the land and its resources not only are a farmer's lifeblood today, but represent the family's future, as well.

The agriculture community has much to be proud of for Earth Day 2007. With the widespread adoption of modern farming techniques such as global positioning satellites, conservation tillage and biotechnology, today's farmers are producing more food than ever before on fewer acres with fewer inputs. This has resulted in a tremendous reduction in the loss of soil through

See GRASSROOTS, page 5

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All Around Kentucky
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Grassroots

Continued from page 5
erosion, while increasing the protection of water resources.

The most popular way that farmers protect the environment is by using “no-till” or “reduced-tillage” planting practices that keep residues such as stalks and leaves in the field, thereby controlling erosion.

I’m proud to say that no-till planting was first implemented in Kentucky and continues to grow in popularity. Today, about 60 percent of crops in the United States are

grown using some form of conservation tillage. This greatly reduces field runoff, keeping crop protectants in the field and out of streams.

Record numbers of farmers continue to participate in programs that protect the environment and provide habitat for wildlife. These conservation efforts are important to all Americans because they provide farmers the opportunity to enhance profitability while preventing soil erosion,

restoring wetlands, cleaning the air and water and preserving wildlife habitat.

And these programs have been so successful that Congress is considering a significant expansion as part of the next farm bill. Some observers, in fact, are predicting that our nation’s farm policy will more “green” than ever before.

Voluntary, incentive-based approaches are readily embraced by farmers and show impressive results.

... No-till planting was first implemented in Kentucky ...

Topping a long list of successful initiatives is the 22-year-old Conservation Reserve Program that pays farmers to remove land at a high risk for erosion from production. More than 35 million acres of land have been “retired” from farming because of this program.

Government endeavors also have enabled private landowners to restore or improve some 200,000 acres of wetlands, plus install 1.5 million miles of conservation buffers. Farmers and ranchers have developed conservation plans on more than 13 million acres of cropland and 25 million acres of grazing land.

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to adopt the so-called “best management practices” for producing crops and livestock while protecting water supplies.

As we observe Earth Day 2007, consumers can be assured that farmers are doing their fair share to preserve the environment for future generations.

Sam Moore appointed to Kentucky State Fair Board

Staff report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Governor Ernie Fletcher has appointed Kentucky Farm Bureau director Sam Moore of Morgantown to the Kentucky State Fair Board.

Moore is a farmer and retired as president of Kentucky Farm Bureau in 2005 after seven years as head of the state’s largest ag-related organization. He has been a member of the Kentucky Farm Bureau board of directors, where he now serves as immediate past president, for more than 30 years.

As an agency of the Kentucky Commerce Cabinet, the Kentucky State Fair Board operates two of the largest convention and trade

show facilities in the state – the Kentucky Exposition Center and the Kentucky International Convention Center, both located in Louisville.

In addition to hosting traveling events year round at the two facilities, the Kentucky State Fair Board also produces three events of its own: the Kentucky State Fair, the National Farm Machinery Show and the North American International Livestock Exposition.



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KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU



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Macy Purcell spells his way to championship

Staff Report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Kentucky has a new spelling champion. Macy Purcell, an eighth grader from Grayson County, won the 14th annual Kentucky Derby Festival Spelling Bee when he correctly spelled symbiosis, a biological word meaning advantageous associations between two dissimilar organisms that has slipped into every day lexicon to describe mutually beneficial relationships. The win earned Purcell a trip to Washington, D.C., to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, beginning on May 30. Parts of the two-day competition, including the final round, are scheduled to be televised by ABC. The network is to release its spelling bee coverage times in early May.

The Kentucky spelling bee, which was held in March, is sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau and Churchill Downs and had been won a record-setting five consecutive years by John Tamplin of Louisville. The event is open only to students in grades fourth



MACY PURCELL

through eighth, and Tamplin – who spelled his way to the state championship every year he entered, beginning when he was 9 years old – is now a high school freshman. Purcell was one of 70 young spellers from Kentucky and Southern Indiana who won local spelling bees in the first step toward the national contest.

Runners-up in the competition were:

Second (tie): Maqenzi Hovious, Jennings County (Ind.); and Bobby Butler, Nelson County.

Third (tie): Rachel Burns, Clay County; Brad Penley, Laurel County; Eric Sterpka and John F. Klinge, Jefferson County (Ky.); and Cheyenne Rouse, Harrison County (Ind.).

Fourth (tie): Lucas Do, Jefferson County (Ky.); Emily Collett, Leslie County; Trevor Hackworth, Martin County; and Megan Sandlin, Scott County (Ind.).

Fifth (tie): Kristina Burton, Russell County; and Jennifer Nguyen, Taylor County.

CHICAGO (Special) - Research from centers around the world report what ancient healers knew thousands of years ago -- *that vinegar is the wonder elixir for a healthier life.*

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"The Vinegar Book" will amaze and delight you with 308 natural ways to enrich your personal life and home. Time-honored folk remedies that show step by step how to mix vinegar with other kitchen staples to:

- Improve your metabolism

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- Aid digestion
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- Condition problem skin
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- Soothe sprained muscles
- Fight osteoporosis with calcium
- Help headaches fade away
- Corn and callus relief
- Aid to maintain health

Vinegar Can Be Used For WHAT?

- Skin rashes, athlete's foot
- Relieve insect bites
- Remedy for urinary problems
- Use for coughs, colds
- Destroy bacteria in foods
- Heart and circulatory problems
- Fight high blood pressure

And the above is only a brief sample of the 308 uses for vinegar you'll learn about.

You'll know how grandma's recipe for her famous pie crust depends on a spoonful of apple cider vinegar.

How a combination of vinegar and fruit juices relieves arthritis symptoms and other aches and pains.

Try a delicious low calorie, calcium- and-iron rich chicken soup and vinegar recipe.

Combine your favorite herbs with vinegar to create tenderizers, mild laxatives, mouth washes, tension relievers, and mouthwatering tasty salad dressings and more.

Of course, we all know the cleaning power of vinegar. But Emily Thacker's

research has uncovered a host of new moneysaving ways to keep your home, laundry, clothing, brass, copper and other possessions sparkling clean. And with less effort.

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Young farmers remain upbeat about future, despite hurdles they face

Staff Report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

The availability of land and overall profitability continue to be the top concerns of America's young farmers and ranchers, although the majority say they are better off financially than they were five years ago.

Those are just a few of the key findings of an informal survey of farmers and ranchers ages 18 to 35 from across the United States conducted by the American Farm Bureau Federation in February.

Overall, the 15th annual polling of participants in the organization's Farmer & Rancher Program shows that the future of American agriculture is in competent and caring hands. Despite challenges, today's young farmers and ranchers are investing in new technology and business practices to sharpen their competitive edge, while providing for their families and communities and protecting the environment.

"The survey results show that young farm-

ers and ranchers in general are optimistic about the future of agriculture, otherwise we wouldn't see a place for our children in farming and ranching," said Chris Chinn, a hog producer from Clarence, Mo., and chairman of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee.

For the second straight year, the vast majority of young farmers and ranchers (79 percent) said they were more optimistic about farming than they were five years ago. In 2002, less than 60 percent were optimistic. In addition, when asked if they felt better off financially than they were five years ago, 85 percent said "yes," down from last year's record 91 percent but up sharply from the survey's low of 70 percent in 2000.

As professional opportunities continue to abound, the percentage of young farmers who envision their professions as lifelong (92 percent) remained high. The greatest percentage (99.5) was reported in 1995.

Daniel Gaston, who heads Kentucky Farm Bureau's Young Farmer's Advisory Committee, said the positive outlook was shared by most participants at KFB's Young Farmers Leadership Conference, which drew a record 352 people in late January.

"I think more of us have high hopes for the future," Gaston said.

He attributed the upbeat attitudes to increases in farm income in recent year because of the continued demand for grains and the strength of the state's livestock.

National security is another reason to be optimistic, he said. "What if we were trying to import most of our food? We could be dependent on

another country, like we are with oil. There always will be agriculture in the United States of America."

He takes nothing for granted, however, saying that concerted efforts that Kentucky Farm Bureau and other agriculture groups are taking to support young farmers to become established and stay in business will make a

See YOUNG FARMERS, page 19



Daniel Gaston



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Photo by Terri Bradshaw

Hagan New, son of Kristal and John Russell New of Owen County, won a toy tractor at the Kentucky Farm Bureau Young Farmers Leadership Conference.

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Buy the right tools to really get the job done in the garden

By Jeneen Wiche

SPECIAL TO KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

When my family first moved to western Shelby County in 1979, we came equipped with a push lawnmower, perfect for the suburban lawn we left behind but woefully inadequate for taking care of 18 acres.

Fortunately we had country neighbors with bush hogs and a dozen cattle, on loan, to help us keep grass under control.

Our equipment eventually caught up with our responsibilities, however, and our collection of tools had to grow by out of necessity.

The tools of the trade on the farm and in the garden can make your job really easy or really difficult. Good tools, knowing how to use them and when to use them makes gardening fun instead of tedious.

The first thing to consider is cost, especially if you are a young gardener in the beginning stages of amassing a working tool shed. Still, the guiding principle is: Don't buy cheap tools; it is a waste of money. I

have had cheap tools. They last maybe three uses before they bend, split or break.

Spend as much as you can afford on quality tools, which generally are generally made of steel: forged steel, stainless steel, steel alloy, etc.

Pruning and digging efficiently

There are several tools that you must have if you want to be efficient in the garden. There are digging tools and cutting

The guiding principle is:

Don't buy cheap tools; it is a waste of money.

tools, and each style is designed to perform under certain circumstances. Efficiency, safety and plant health are our concerns.

Make the first investment in scissor-action hand pruners, which also are called

bypass pruners because they have two sharp edges that bypass each other resulting in a very clean cut. Bypass pruners are used to prune soft stems that are a half-inch in diameter or less and cost \$25 to \$50.

Avoid anvil-type pruners that have a sharp cutting edge against a blunt edge because they usually end up smashing or bruising soft stems.

Loppers are used for pruning branches that are up to 1 1/2 inches in diameter. The longer handles allow for more leverage when cutting through a thicker piece of wood. In all pruning chores, the ultimate goal is to make a clean cut so leverage (and sharp blades) is important to make the cut swiftly and cleanly. Messy pruning cuts make it harder for the wound to heal over and easier for opportunistic diseases and insects to enter the wood. The average price of good loppers is about \$70.

A hand saw is my favorite pruning tool for branches that are more than 1 1/2 inches in diameter. I like my folding handsaw, which has a comfortable design and gets the job done. Curved pruning saws cut on the back pull, which seems the most manageable. Put more energy into the back-pull and less in the forward push, when using this style of hand saw. A good folding handsaw will cost about \$25.

Keep all blades sharp so they work properly. Quality brands offer replacement parts, including blades when sharpening is no longer viable. The serrated blade of the handsaw, since it cannot be sharpened, should be replaced when it becomes dull.

Not all shovels are created equal. Digging tools are designed for certain chores and using the right tool for the right job can cut your work time in half.

A good spade, which will dig, cut or turn the soil, will go far in the garden. The tool has a flat metal blade with a straight edge,

perfect for cutting into the soil. And, a sharp, steel spade can also cut through roots that need to be removed or through a clump of daylilies ready for division. Good steel nursery

spades are priced at \$50 to \$70.

A small transplant spade is useful in the perennial bed. A transplant spade has both a curved blade and curved edge and is smaller size allows for maneuverability in an existing bed. A transplant spade will cost, depending on size, \$30 to \$75.

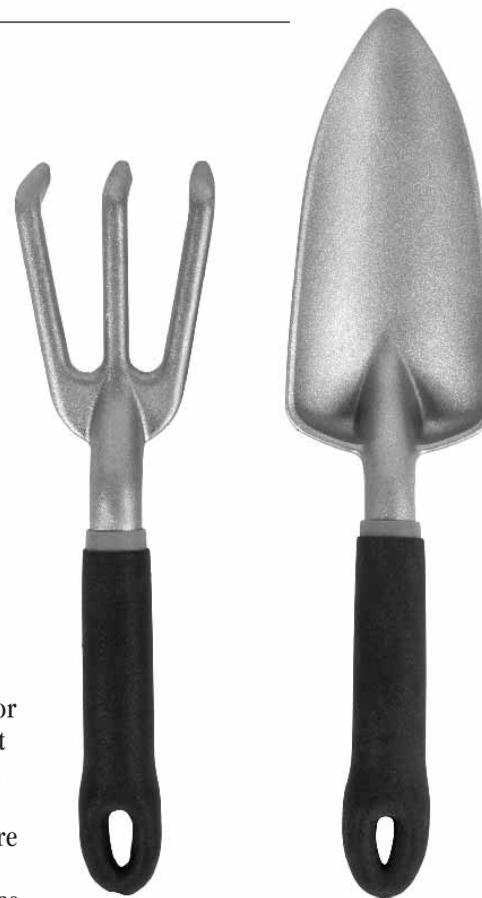
Remember, too, that the blade edges of digging tools need to be kept sharp for them to perform best.

Where to find them

Specialty garden centers and hardware and farm supply stores often carry the basics when it comes to tools. Remember to check for quality and don't let the price tag influence your purchase. Good tools only need to be purchased once.

If you can't find what you want at a local retailer, check such tool catalogues as A.M. Leonard (1-800-543-8955); Johnny's Selected Seeds (1-800-564-6697); Gardener's Supply Co. (1-888-833-1412); and Garden Tools by Lee Valley (1-800-871-8158).

About the author: Jeneen Wiche writes a weekly syndicated garden column that is distributed statewide. In Louisville, she co-hosts "HomeGrown" on WFPL-FM and produces a gardening segment for WDRB-TV. She and her husband care for Swallow Rail, the Shelby County home and horticultural farm Jeneen's father, the late Fred Wiche, built and began planting in 1979. You can contact her at JWiche@aol.com or write to her at 2340 Connor Station Road, Simpsonville, Ky. 40067



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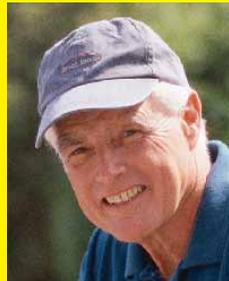
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Interior updates revive decor at my My Old Kentucky Home



Photos courtesy of Kentucky State Parks

"New" furnishings reflect history of My Old Kentucky Home.

By Mac Lacy

SPECIAL TO KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

To people in Bardstown, it is simply "the home".

The more formal name is Federal Hill, the elegant main house for what was the estate of Judge John Rowan and supposedly a touchstone for one of America's most celebrated songwriters, Stephen Foster. A relative of the Rowan family, Foster is said to have spent summers at the house - which was finished in 1812 after four years construction - in the early 1850s.

And it is because of Foster best known song that the federal-style house is probably known better by a third name, My Old Kentucky Home.

During my visit to what is now the centerpiece of My Old Kentucky Home State Park, manager Alice Heaton referred to it simply as "the home." Heaton has recently overseen a major renovation of Federal Hill and is confident that the curator who managed the project has recaptured many of its original characteristics.

Bold new wallpapers and carpets have replaced a rather austere decor that had been in place since the late 1970s.

"You start by looking at wills and letters," Heaton said, when I asked how we could still be learning what Federal Hill might have looked like in the mid-19th century. "It's an ongoing process. Paint analysis, for instance, has come a long way in recent years. Catalogs exist that tell us what would have been popular in the 1800s.

"There are still a lot of Rowans out there," she continued. "I've talked to several of the descendants. Some went out west, others are in Virginia. There could still be old letters out there we don't know about that would describe something in this home."

We walked through the two floors that are open for visitors, starting with the first level.

"This is the 'best parlor,' the first place guests would have been welcomed," Heaton said. "These carpets were hand-woven in Europe. The 'graining' of the doors is just amazing to me," she said in describing a hand-painted 'grain' in the doors. "This is how they would have done it when the Rowans were living here."

We moved to a second room—my favorite. The colors were vivid blues and bronzes, both in the carpeting and the wallpapers.



"This is the second parlor," Heaton said. "This was the family parlor or library. The Rowans would have spent time here in the evenings."

We crossed over into the dining room. This room had a Mediterranean feel, with wallpaper featuring palm trees that stretch from the floor up most of the way to the ceiling.

"John Jr. was Ambassador to Sicily. That's where this influence comes from," Heaton said. "The verandah motif would have come from their European experiences."

We moved upstairs to a bedroom — daughter Rebecca's. Today, its windows look out over the park's golf course, which would have been part of a 500 acre estate during Judge Rowan's lifetime and the time of Foster's visits.

"This carpet has Kentucky influence.

Everything in this room belonged to the Rowan family and is just where they would have used it. People are shocked that they had wall to wall carpeting in every room here," Heaton said. "This was indicative of their wealth. The judge was a national figure — a very prominent man. He served in the U.S. House of Representatives and entertained Presidents Jackson and Monroe here in Kentucky. He spoke at the funeral of George Rogers Clark."

Two other bedrooms upstairs have been renovated: The master bedroom and the "summer bedroom," which has been done in lighter shades to better depict that season at Federal Hill. Both look out over an expansive front lawn.

"The renovation cost \$1 million," said Heaton as we left. "If we hadn't had an anonymous donor, this could never have been done. The state cannot budget this kind of work today."

All of which leads to a question.

How do you make Stephen Foster and Federal Hill relevant in 2007? It's a question Heaton deals with constantly. How do you make school kids, or maybe even their parents, take an interest in the heritage of a person or place?

A second question follows.

How do you give Stephen Foster the credit he deserves in 2007, when his music was written 150 years ago in an era that most of us no longer understand? Perhaps the only way is to draw parallels to songwriters we know today. Think Bob Dylan or Jimi Hendrix. Think Stevie Wonder or Paul Simon.

That's the sort of esteem Foster is given by people in the music industry today — such people as Carly Simon, who recently recorded his "Oh, Susannah" with her children. Or by American Roots Publishing, which produced a CD in 2004 of Foster's music featuring artists John Prine, Alison Kraus and Yo-Yo Ma.

IF YOU GO

Federal Hill and My Old Kentucky Home State Park are in Bardstown on U.S. 150. Bardstown is accessible by Interstate 65 and Bluegrass Parkway. The park and home are open 9–5 daily year-round except for major holidays. Fees to tour the house start at \$5.50. There are discounts for seniors, children and groups.

For more information, phone 800-323-7803 or e-mail Alice Heaton at alice.heaton@ky.gov.

Hall of Fame

Continued from page 1

And the most famous Triple Crown winner of modern times - 1973 Kentucky Derby winner Secretariat - will be the first four-legged star to join the Hall of Fame.

The timing of the selection of Secretariat, who died 18 years ago, for the Hall of Fame was not related to the Hall of Fame joining forces with the Derby Festival, said Steve McCormick, the insurance company's director of administrative services.

Secretariat's inclusion by the sportswriters and broadcasters throughout Kentucky who nominate the inductees is fitting, though, he said. "Secretariat was one of the greatest horses of all time."

McCormick said being on the Derby Festival calendar recognizes that there is a synergy between the two groups.

"What the Derby Festival really does is

highlight a sporting event, and recognition of figures from a variety of sports is the purpose of the Hall of Fame."

High profile people from the world of sports now will be in Louisville during Derby Week, and the Hall of Fame, as well as the Derby Festival, will benefit by the attention that will generate, McCormick said. Another beneficiary will be Kosair Charities, which receives proceeds from the annual dinner for its support of medical services for sick children.

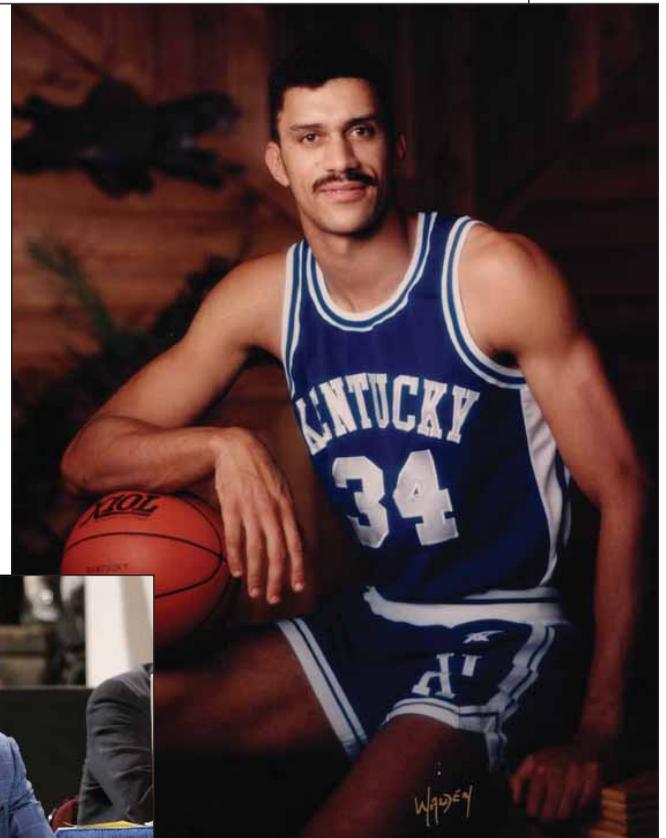
By honoring inductees in the spring, he said, the Hall of Fame board of directors also was able to follow through with a long-time desire to honor outstanding high school athletes. "In the fall, many athletes have not finished their seasons or were seniors who graduated the previous spring and have gone on to college and may not have been able to return to receive the awards. ... We're hoping that someday the Kentucky Farm Bureau Athlete of the Year will become the premier award for high school students."

Joining Beaumont, who has signed with the University of Louisville football team, and Gray, who will play college ball at Duke University, at the induction ceremonies will be two other former Kentucky high school stars and rivals - quarterbacks Tim Couch and Chris Redman,

Couch, a former Mr. Football, played at Leslie County High School before he entered the college ranks at the University of

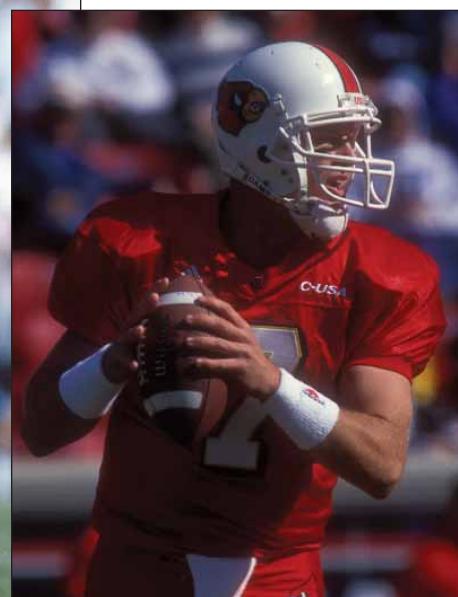
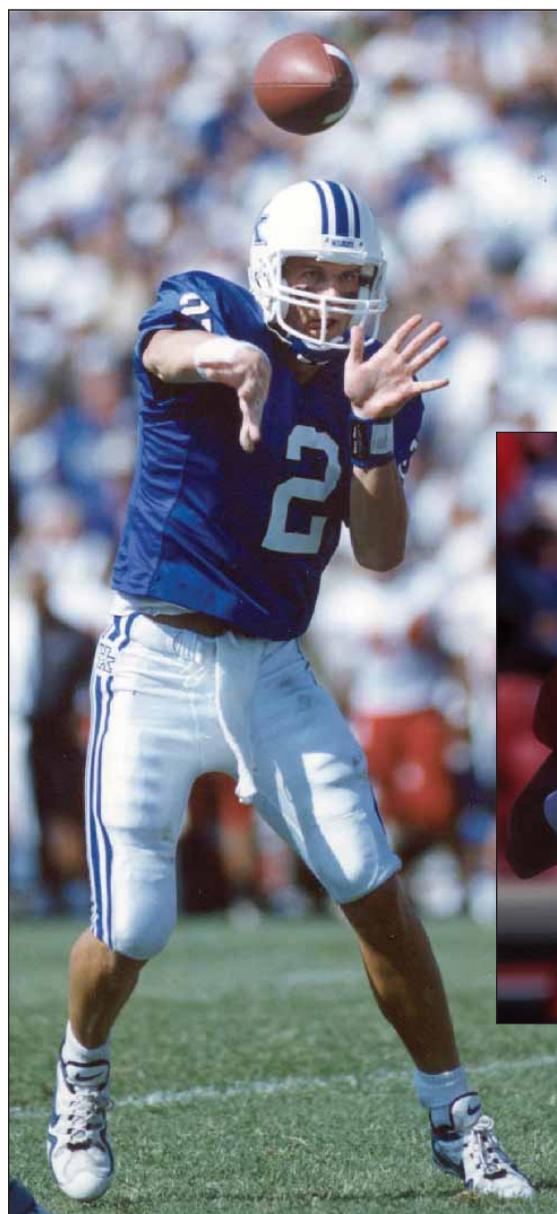
Kentucky where he was an All-American. As the school's quarterback for three seasons, he became UK's all-time leading passer and was a finalist for the 1998 Heisman Trophy. He was the first Kentucky player to be the overall first pick in the NFL draft when he was selected by the Cleveland Browns.

Like Beaumont, Redman was a star at Male. He also was select-



Photos on this page courtesy of University of Kentucky and University of Louisville athletic departments

Bill Keightley, who joined the University of Kentucky basketball staff under the late Adolph Rupp, was equipment manager when fellow Hall of Fame inductee Kenny Walker, above, played for the team.



College football rivals Tim Couch, left, and Chris Redman, above, will join the Kentucky Hall of Fame in May.

ed as the national high school All American and offensive Player of the Year. During his four seasons at U of L, Redman threw for 12,541 yards, the third-highest in Division I history, and was the first winner of the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm award. He was drafted by Baltimore in 1999 and recently signed to play for the Atlanta Falcons under former U of L coach Bobby Petrino.

Also to be inducted into the 2007 Kentucky Hall of Fame class are:

- University of Kentucky basketball's equipment manager Bill Keightley. Now 80, he joined legendary UK Coach Adolph Rupp's staff in 1962 and has worked under four other coaches there. He and the late Cawood Ledford, the "Voice of the Wildcats" for many years and a Hall of Fame member, are the only nonplayers to have jerseys retired in their honor.

- Golfer Myra Van Hoose Blackwelder. She was the first woman to receive an athletic scholarship to UK, where she won 10 collegiate golf championships. She was named the LPGA's Rookie of the Year after she joined the professional golf circuit in 1980.

- The late Clarence "Bighouse" Gaines. A Paducah native, he guided Winston-Salem State University to a Davison II NCAA championship and 828 wins throughout his 47-year career there. He retired from coaching in 1993, but the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame member's record is still sixth for all-time coaching wins for any division.

- Ron Kordes. He has built a volleyball powerhouse at Assumption High School in Louisville, since being named the school's coach in 1988. His teams have won two national championships and 13 state titles in the past 15 years.

- Kenny "Sky" Walker. The two-time All-American still is the second-leading scorer in the history of UK men's basketball. Walker played for the New York Knicks and in Europe and was UK basketball announcer for several years.

- Jeff Mullins. The Lexington native was Mr. Basketball in 1960 as a senior at Lafayette High School. He was an All-American at Duke and played on the 1964 Olympic gold-medal winning basketball team. Mullins was a three-time NBA All Star during his 13-year pro career. He then coached for four years at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte.

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Marketing state's premier craft show is labor of love

By Lalie Dick

SPECIAL TO KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Ask Fran Redmon to what she attributes her successful career at Kentucky Crafted: The Market and she'll lay it right on the rustic line. She's been working since she was 15 years

old with virtually no time-outs for vacation.

From the farm to the 22nd floor of the Capitol Office Building in Frankfort, the road to the top has taken many a twist and turn. "Purely by accident," said Redmon, the seemingly tireless Craft Marketing Program director for the Kentucky Arts Council, as she finished a hurried

microwaved lunch.

"It's whatever you want to be," said Redmon, who has been a part of the internationally acclaimed show since its beginning.

"The family mantra was, 'Whatever it takes, you get it done. You do what you have to do,'" she said with a smile born on a Bluegrass farm. "There were five children ? four girls and one boy ? but being a girl didn't stop my Dad from putting us out in the fields."

Her labors and commitment to supporting the art work created by Kentucky craftsmen has the attention of her North American colleagues, and this summer Redmon will receive a special U.S. and Canadian Craft Organization Development Association leadership award.

Redmon cultivated her own artistic talents at Western Kentucky University, where she was an art major whose specialty was weaving. She also studied photography and dreamed of being a graphic artist.

In order to pay her way, she worked at the Kentucky Museum and was a resident assistant in the dorm. She also took a job at a pizza parlor and, by the time she graduated, was the manager.

Earlier this year, Redmon led the way through the 25th anniversary of Kentucky Crafted: The Market, a juried exhibit of arts and crafts that attracts buyers representing an array of retailers from throughout the world. The show, which is now held at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, also is open

to the public and was ranked No. 1 among art fairs and festivals in a recent American Style magazine readers' poll.

Redmon has a daunting task, one built on the fundamentals of rural and urban life, and the quiet, ongoing work of individuals creating original art.

In 1982, the first market, then called the Kentucky Crafts Market, was held at the

Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington. By the mid 1990s, the organization was well on its way to respect by collectors and consumers when it was renamed Kentucky Crafted: The Market.

A few years later, it expanded its base to include Kentucky food products that are part of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's "Kentucky Proud" program. Selected out-of-state exhibitors also are now invited to participate. Each of the more than 300 exhibits at the Kentucky Exposition Center was a

demonstration of individual, original expression.

In addition to the presentation of the best of Kentucky's craftspeople and their work, Kentucky publishers, recorded music and two-dimensional visual art are showcased ... furniture and fabulous fabrics, hand-crafted beads and baskets, paintings and pottery, quilts and quartz, toys and tempered metals, exquisite jewelry and jimdandies of every kind.

In a brochure produced for Kentucky Crafted: The Market's silver anniversary,

See REDMON, page 17



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Redmon

Continued from page 16

Redmon noted that in a relatively short period of time, the event "has become part of the cultural and economic landscape of Kentucky. It is a great example of public programming that can take root and flourish when visionary leadership connects with unique assets, opportunity, timing and sustained support."

She expects the show to continue to be a model for other states and to attract even more worldwide attention to the gems created by Kentuckians.

And, she said, the long-term effects for

the state extend beyond Louisville and the prestige exhibitors receive for being selected to show their wares at the two-day event, which generates up to \$3 million in direct sales for participants.

"Tourism is the third largest industry in Kentucky, and the crafts industry and arts are part of that," she said.

Other states have researched Kentucky's public support of its artisans and the \$252 million in annual sales that they generate statewide and another \$147 million to out-of-state customers. And countries as far

away as South Africa and Romania have looked to Kentucky as the example to market crafts that represent their heritages.

"Kentucky is near the bottom in some things, but we're at the top of this kind of program, and we've given a positive image to the state," Redmon said.

Her role in the effort has been crucial - a fact that is being recognized by colleagues outside Kentucky. In June, she will become only the second recipient of the U.S. and Canadian Craft Organization Development Association Outstanding Service, Creative

Thinking and Leadership Award.

"This is so rewarding for me," Redmon said. "It tells me that the work I've done has been valued by my peers."

It is also rewarding for Kentucky that she speaks out so clearly and is recognized internationally for community.

The farmer's daughter who has woven herself into the fabric of the state's past, present and future is one of the many Kentucky women making a positive difference, flying in the face of "Daisy Mae" and all the other stereotypes foisted upon us.

Kentucky Crafted picked as No. 1 show in survey

AmericanStyle magazine readers picked Kentucky Crafted: The Market as their favorite among all the art fairs and festivals held throughout the country and placed two other Kentucky events in their Top 10 list.

The Kentucky Crafted market, which marked its 25th anniversary this year, was selected as the most popular art show in an AmericanStyle readership poll that appeared in the October 2006 issue and on the magazine's Web site.

A feature story on the event - the first of its kind in the country when it began in 1982 - appeared in the February issue of AmericanStyle.

The 2007 Kentucky crafts show, held in early March at the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville, attracted more than 300 exhibitors.

The St. James Court Art Fair, which also is held in Louisville, and the Francisco's Farm Arts Festival in Midway, made their first appearance on AmericanStyle readers' list of favorite arts and crafts events.

The St. James art show ranked third, and the Francisco's Farm festival came in at No. 10.

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KFB selects new IT chief

Staff Report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance Cos. will have a new technology chief this summer.

Kelly Hall, who has 21 years experience in the technology field, will succeed Paul Diersing as vice president of Information Technology when he retires in June after almost 35 years with the insurance company.

Hall, former corporate director of information technology at Baptist Healthcare System, joined Kentucky Farm Bureau in early March. She is spending the time before Diersing's retirement to take advantage of his experience and expertise as she learns how the IT department, which has a



Kelly Hall

staff of 130, and other divisions within the company operate, said Roger Simpson, the insurer's executive vice president.

"It is a luxury to have such a transition period

when someone comes into a new atmosphere," he said. "She has the technical expertise and can build personal and professional relationships with Paul's guidance, when needed. There will be no lag time when Paul retires in June. She can hit the ground running."

After investing 17 1/2 years building a career at Baptist Healthcare, owner of Baptist Hospital in Louisville and Baptist Hospital Northeast in La Grange, Hall said she was drawn to apply for the Kentucky Farm Bureau position by the company's reputation and the opportunity to grow professionally.

"KFB has a lot of the same qualities and cultural values that I enjoyed at Baptist Healthcare," Hall said. "The professionalism that I saw during the whole process of interviewing was so impressive."

Hall has masters degrees in computer resources and human resources management from Webster University. She earned her undergraduate degree in communications from the University of Louisville.

Hall and husband Tommy, an electrical sales executive, are the parents of two children: son Taylor and daughter Janelle.

Young farmers

Continued from page 8

difference. "The fact that Kentucky Farm Bureau is interested in young farmers helps," said Gaston, adding the such events as the leadership conference that have programs that address issues relevant to farming today is encouraging to people.

"There are so many different things you can do to learn to better yourself," he said.

Gaston also noted that the average American farmer is older today and most will be retired in 20 years or less. "Young farmers have to be there and ready to take over."

While more young farmers (44 percent) who participated in the AFBF survey came from a farming family, 30 percent started on their own, which is the highest ever in the poll's 15-year history. In addition, the percentage of young farmers who would like to see their children follow in their footsteps (93 percent) also remained high despite economic challenges.

For the second straight year, young farmers said availability of land and facilities was their top concern (29 percent). Just two years ago, only 5 percent deemed it their top challenge.

In addition, 56 percent listed it as among their top three concerns. These findings reflect the growing demand for U.S. farmland.

Like last year, the young farmers indicated overall profitability was their second biggest challenge, selected by 23 percent. That's up from 18 percent in 2006 and down sharply from 36 percent in 2000, which marked the highest ever.

Also as in 2006, urbanization and loss of farmland was third on the list of concerns.

"The fact that Kentucky Farm Bureau is interested in young farmers helps."

Daniel Gaston
KFB Young Farmers Advisory Committee

Thirteen percent of respondents listed it as their No. 1 challenge, while 36 percent ranked it as among their top three. Encroaching development was not ranked among the top three potential problems until 2003.

Gaston said young farmers in Kentucky, too, are worried about farms giving way to development, which not only limits farming opportunities but drives up prices.

When asked to choose three steps from a list of 13 that could be taken to help their operations, 22 percent said more financial help in getting started was their first choice. Forty-five percent listed it among the top three.

The vast majority of young farmers and ranchers (63 percent) said farm income should come "totally from the marketplace," while 37 percent said farm income should be supplemented by farm program payments.

Last year 79 percent of respondents indicated they wanted sole reliance on the marketplace. This question was first added to the survey in 1996, when 88 percent of respondents wanted to rely only on the marketplace for farm income.

Mirroring past surveys, this year's respondents reported a strong commitment to conservation and the use of environmentally beneficial farming practices. Fifty-seven percent said they employ conservation tillage on their farms. Nearly half (47 percent) said they regularly test soil or crop tissue prior to the application of nutrients. And 46 percent utilize crop rotation practices with three or more commodities.

(Kentucky Farm Bureau Staff also contributed to story.)

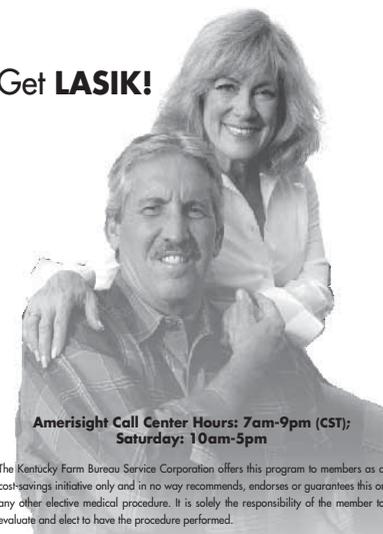
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Mahans earn young farmers title

Staff Report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

A Kentucky couple - John and Jill Mahan of Lexington - who have embraced diversity to grow their farming operation earned the 2007 American Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Achievement Award, designating them as the top young farm family in the nation.

The Mahans, who farm 1,600 acres in Fayette and surrounding Central Kentucky counties, received the award at the American Farm Bureau annual meeting in January when they competed with young farmers from throughout the country. They also were appointed to the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Advisory Committee.



Jill and John Mahan

The couple produce burley tobacco, beef cattle, wheat, soybeans, corn and alfalfa and recycle and market horse muck from stables where they board horses and from nearby thoroughbred farms.

They also operate a turf-grass sod company.

John Mahan said their unique farming enterprises seemed to be of special interest to the judges.

"The fact that we came up with a way to profit from manure, the biggest byproduct of the thoroughbred industry, you

could tell during the interview that it got their attention," he said.

"We have several aspects of our farm that are something other than traditional agriculture and that may have more or less set us apart from the other young farmers in this contest."

Out-of-state firewood banned from state parks

Staff Report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Kentucky State Parks is not allowing any out-of-state firewood to be brought into campgrounds this year to reduce the risk of bringing an unwelcome insect into the state.

The ban is intended to keep the emerald ash borer, an insect that kills ash trees, from entering the state and applies to all states outside Kentucky, where the pest has not yet been detected.

The insect has been found in states north of Kentucky - including Ohio, Michigan, Illinois and Indiana, which have quarantined the movement of firewood. Nationwide, an estimated 40,000 square miles of forests have been infested since the ash borer was discovered in 2002.

North American Ash is a popular landscape tree in Kentucky, as well as being a dominant species in forest lands throughout the state. It is a staple in the state's timber industry and is used in a variety of wood products.

Internationally, the ash may be best

known as the wood of choice for some Louisville Slugger baseball bats.

The emerald ash borer is a slender, metallic-colored beetle about one-third to one-half an inch in length. It is a native of Asia and is believed to have entered the United States in infected wooden packing.

A federal quarantine went in place on Dec. 1, 2006, to prohibit the transportation of potentially infected ash products into uninfected states. The quarantine regulates many ash products from nursery stock to raw lumber.

State park campground visitors are asked to use firewood from Kentucky. Campers with out-of-state firewood will be allowed to turn their firewood in at check in for proper disposal. Kentucky State Park campgrounds will have firewood for sale.

Other private and public campgrounds in Kentucky may be adopting the same policy. Campers should check advance.

For information about the emerald ash borer, contact Tim McClure with the Kentucky Division of Forestry at 502-564-4496 or visit the agency's Web site at www.forestry.ky.gov.

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Computers

Continued from page 1

Hollon is only one of many farmers throughout Kentucky who have been given refurbished computers after taking classes on basic techniques and how to use Excel spreadsheets to keep farm records.

The systems have been made available to people who participated in the tobacco buy-out through the Computers for Farm Use program administered by the McConnell Technology and Training Center in Louisville as part of a statewide campaign to expand computer literacy. Other targeted groups of the overall effort include senior citizens, social services clients, small business owners, at-risk students, health care professionals, laid-off workers, artisans and park rangers.

Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance Cos.' involvement began last year as the company started the process to upgrade its desktop Dell computers by installing new keyboards, mice and towers. Dell Computer Corp.

offered a credit of about \$175 per unit to put in 525 new systems, resulting in a savings of approximately \$91,875 in replacement costs.

Paul Diersing, the insurer's Information Technology vice president, had another idea: Why not donate the machinery to MTTC, which solicits used equipment to bring the technology to Kentuckians who have shied away from it because of the cost or lack of computer skills?

Specifically, Diersing was interested in MTTC's goal of providing computer hardware and software to 1,000 farmers statewide.

"We thought that donating these computer systems aligned with our overall company goal – serving our customers," Diersing said. "And the agriculture community is a primary client of ours."

Diersing had several discussions with Edward Hafling, MTTC's contracts manager and legal advisor, and before the decision was made to donate the systems, he David Metzgar, KFB's manager of support services, toured the McConnell Center in Louisville.

They watched technicians at work, seeing first-hand how computer monitors provided by another business or organization could be linked to KFB equipment.

They came away impressed. "It is a win-win situation," Metzgar said.

Hafling and Bill Thompson, MTTC's director of computer technology, said Kentucky Farm Bureau's need to dispose of gently used computer systems meshed with their objective of improving – and in many cases introducing – computer technology to

donation to the program was fortuitous, Thompson said.

Other large private employers and colleges have donated hundreds of systems, he said, but the supply was running short when Kentucky Farm Bureau pledged the 525 units – the target for Computers for Farm Use had just been increased to 1,000 from 800.

Thompson said: "I was out beating the bushes. We would have been scrambling, if we had not received them."



Kentucky Farm Bureau employees removed computer systems to be donated to the statewide Computers for Farm Use program.

Kentucky's agriculture community.

"We thought it was a good match,"

Hafling said.

Among the 50 states, Kentucky ranks last for computer use by farmers.

Most of the Computers for Farm Use enrollees are older. And Bob Simmons, the workforce development liaison at Madisonville Community & Technology College, said that without the program many of the 89 people who enrolled in classes there since last fall to be eligible for the donated equipment "probably would never have been exposed to computers."

Nor would they have been able to add computers to their inventory of farm equipment. Now, however, more than a few have talked to him about signing up for more advanced courses to become more proficient, said Simmons, who was an instructor at the classes taught at one of the school's computer labs. "With technology, they know they can better track their costs to find out if they are really making a profit."

The timing of the Kentucky Farm Bureau's

The discarded Kentucky Farm Bureau equipment has made its way to farmers because of such donations and a variety of grants – much of it from the state's share of federal tobacco settlement funds – to cover the cost of refurbishing and outfitting units with new software designed for farm operations and setting up computer classes.

(Before the Kentucky Farm Bureau equipment is shipped to MTTC, hard drives are wiped clean of all data to protect the insurance company's proprietary information and member-clients' privacy.)

Since it was started three years ago, Computers for Farm Use has received about \$330,000 from the Governor's Office of Agriculture Policy, Agriculture Development Fund, Kentucky Growers' Cooperative Association and programs earmarked for adult education.

The Kentucky Community & Technical College system participates by providing space for classes and providing instructors to teach the PC Essentials and Excel courses on its

See Computers, page 23

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BIG ON COMMITMENT.

Computers

Continued from page 22

campuses and other locations.

Hollon is very pleased with the "new" computer system that he and his wife, Judy, have installed for their Marion County cattle operation. "We're tickled to death with ours," he said. "It looks brand new."

So is Leon Lanham, who now has a donated computer to keep records on his small cattle herd in Lebanon.

Lanham was not a novice when it came to computers. He had access to the technology and different software programs at a family business before he retired. But he did not have a computer at home. Nor could he justify the cost of purchasing the hardware and software for keeping records on 45 head of cattle.

"It's a good program," he said of Computers for Farm Use. "I never could afford (a computer) by myself."

Judy Hollon used a computer when she worked at a local hospital, however, her husband said he "really had no experience. I could turn one off and on, but that is about it."

To receive the "new" computer" the couple, like Lanham, completed the required 18 hours of classes at the Marion County Area Technology Center. Hollon said was impressed with instructor Molly McMasters' patience as she worked with him and other farmers with limited or no computer skills.

Hollon said he is becoming comfortable with the technology and, with high-speed broadband access soon to be available in his area, plans to connect the family farm to the Internet.

The latter is becoming critical to be successful in the cattle industry, Hollon said.

"You can find most of the good Angus herds and everything you need to know about them on the Internet now," he said. "You can look up bloodlines, purchase stock or buy equipment."

The Hollons have recommended Computers for Farm Use to other farmers. "We were lucky to have found out about it," he said.

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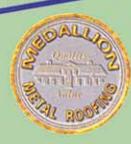


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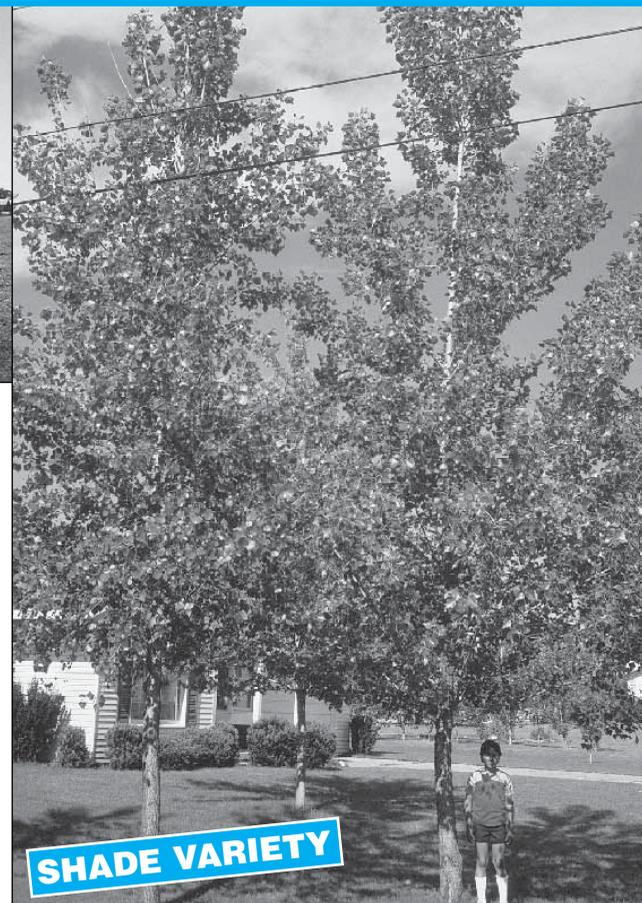
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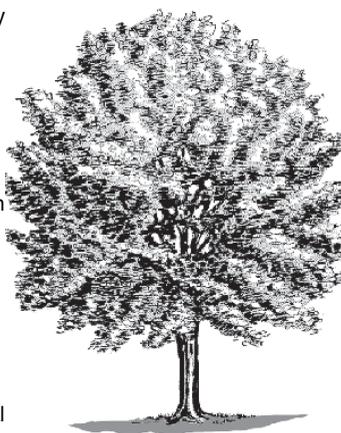
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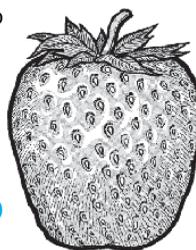
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