

Looking In

America's sports car on display at 'Vette museum



PAGE 9

Deadline nears to

be eligible for roadside market benefits

PAGE 10

Catalogs prescribed to relieve gardening 'itch'



PAGE 16

Wal-Mart salutes Nancy herb supplier

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Muck and turf help put Fayette couple in line for national title

PAGE 20

Time to turn in applications for KFB scholarships

PAGE 22

Student-farmer builds on family heritage

PAGE 27



DEAL ON WHEELS

Discounts on 75 GMC vehicles available to all KFB members



Photo by Rachael Kamuf

DWIGHT GREENWELL, DIRECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICES AT KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU, POSED WITH TWO OF THE 75 GENERAL MOTORS CORP. VEHICLES THAT ARE BEING OFFERED AT A DISCOUNT TO ALL OF THE MORE THAN 450,000 KFB MEMBERS AT 124 KENTUCKY AUTO DEALERS.

By Rachael Kamuf
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

The value of a Kentucky Farm Bureau membership has been enhanced with the addition of \$500 discounts on 75 vehicles in General Motors Corp.'s stable of passenger cars, trucks, SUVs and minivans.

Beginning in January, all Kentucky Farm Bureau members (insurance customers and farmers) are eligible for cash incentives toward the purchase or lease of most vehicles in GM's Chevrolet, GMC,

HUMMER, Pontiac, Saab, Saturn, Buick and Cadillac lines.

The new program replaces a longstanding association with the Dodge Division of Daimler-Chrysler Corp., which offered discounts on seven vehicles.

The switch was made to give a broader segment of members more options as GM has more dealers in Kentucky – all of whom are participating - and is offering a greater selection, said David S. Beck, executive vice president of Kentucky Farm Bureau.

See DEALS, page 26

On the road with stories of Kentucky

By Rachael Kamuf
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Holiday ornaments have all but disappeared into attics and storage rooms in most houses and stores, but there is a shop in downtown La Grange where it is always the Christmas season.

The name of the business fittingly is Christmas in Kentucky and as its name implies, the store is stocked with decorations that reflect the state's heritage and modern day prominence for high end arts and crafts.

See BACKROADS, page 24

"Take Off 20 Pounds and 20 Years in 20 Weeks, Naturally!"

(By Frank K. Wood)

If you want to lose weight, keep it off, and be healthier fast, you need *Take Off 20 Pounds and 20 Years in 20 Weeks or Less, Naturally*, an informative new book just released to the public by FC&A Medical Publishing® in Peachtree City, Georgia.

This book tells you how to take the weight off and keep it off with proven strategies that work for a lifetime ... like learning about the 8 foods that practically "force" your body to lose weight. Make them part of your food plan and you can shed fat without even trying.

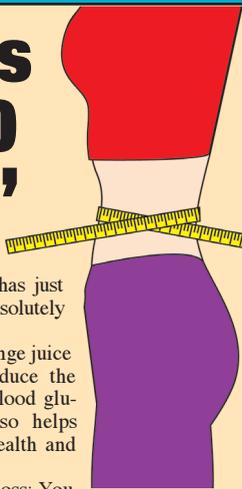
- ▶ Flatten a bulging belly and strengthen your back with this easy exercise — and it's not sit-ups!
- ▶ Overweight? Chew this and lose those excess pounds! Surprising research cited.
- ▶ 50 best healthy eating tips for losing weight permanently and lowering blood pressure quickly, naturally.
- ▶ Solve those persistent weight problems with this sage advice.
- ▶ Raise your metabolism and drop pounds with this nutritional supplement.
- ▶ You may not have to worry about being overweight again! The "Nothing Forbidden" diet plan ANYBODY can follow!
- ▶ The healthiest kind of physical activity doesn't cost anything and can be performed anywhere! Best of all, it won't leave you bored.
- ▶ This vital staple helps slow down the rate at which starch and sugar are absorbed into the bloodstream. And wait until you hear what it does for your weight.

- ▶ Quick way to satisfy a sweet tooth: It has just 15 little calories and absolutely no artery-clogging fat!
- ▶ Stir this into your orange juice before meals, and reduce the after-eating jump in blood glucose. BONUS: It also helps improve your heart health and combats constipation.
- ▶ Calcium for weight loss: You could have stronger bones AND a slimmer body, if you make sure you get enough of this amazing mineral.
- ▶ Easy ways to boost your metabolism and burn fat.
- ▶ The #1 weight-loss food. Eliminates snacking by turning off your body's internal hunger switch ... while lowering your cholesterol and blood pressure.
- ▶ How just one glass of ice water before a meal can keep you slim and trim.
- ▶ 7 simple steps to cut fat and lower cholesterol.
- ▶ Enjoy one of these tasty natural beverages at "happy hour" ... you'll eat LESS at dinner hour. Smart and satisfying!
- ▶ Frustrated with futile weight loss efforts? Think yourself thin, and become slim, trim and beautiful!
- ▶ Why eating this food will NEVER make you fat!
- ▶ Banish abdominal fat with this little-known supplement. Amazing research revealed.

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Take Off 20 Pounds and 20 Years in 20 Weeks or Less for \$9.99. See coupon.

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"Cinnamon Can Heal What?"

(By Frank K. Wood)

If you'd like to keep your memory sharp, control your cholesterol, and have more energy without dangerous drugs or risky surgery, you need *The Cure Conspiracy: Medical Myths, Alternative Therapies, and Natural Remedies Even Your Doctor May Not Know*, an informative new book just released to the public by FC&A Medical Publishing® in Peachtree City, Georgia.

A must-have for anyone who sees a doctor, takes prescriptions, or uses over-the-counter remedies, this book cuts through the hype and conflicting claims to bring you a virtual encyclopedia of current remedies and therapies. Get the straight story on treatments from acupuncture to zinc and everything in between. Find out how it works (if it works), how to use it, special cautions, and what the research really says. Covers conventional and alternative medicine, including herbs and supplements, plus the truth about some modern medical myths. Thorough and unique, easy to read and use.

- ▶ Good news — you can eat as much of this food as your body can handle! It has absolutely no calories, and what's more, your body needs it to function at its peak.
- ▶ Keep your memory sharp as a tack! The secret to staying mentally alert as you age.
- ▶ Controlling cholesterol a major concern? Good news: This natural substance has been shown to lower cholesterol levels by up to 13% — and it lowered blood sugar levels by almost 20%!
- ▶ At last — a way to lower your cholesterol levels and keep them down for good.
- ▶ Tired and sluggish? Find out what kind of foods will give you more energy.
- ▶ How to get your prescriptions filled without spending a fortune at the pharmacy.
- ▶ Do you know the 9 signs of a heart attack in progress or ... about to begin? This wisdom is essential for every family member of anyone who has high blood pressure.
- ▶ Tap into the healing power of herbs. Facts on herbs that work, and ones to steer clear of.

- ▶ Ten natural arthritis pain relievers!
- ▶ Turn off a craving for sweets and melt off the pounds with this easy pantry weight-loss secret.
- ▶ What you drink for breakfast may determine your future health. Start your mornings off right to avoid type 2 diabetes!
- ▶ Add an extra 10 active years to your life! The most powerful treatment I found for reducing your risk of heart attack or stroke. Improves the quality of your life.
- ▶ Flatten your stomach without gut-wrenching exercises. These tips turn ugly flab into rock-hard abs!
- ▶ Prevent clogged arteries, avoid poor circulation, even stop cataracts. Simple combination of vitamins and minerals does the trick.
- ▶ Feel better and have more energy ... in a matter of weeks!
- ▶ High Cholesterol? The newest "statin" drug lowers cholesterol levels better and with fewer side effects than other drugs.
- ▶ Having trouble sleeping through the night? Try cutting down on this in the evening — no, it's not caffeine!
- ▶ Prescription drugs that kill your memories. Before you blame senility or Alzheimer's, make sure you're not taking any of these drugs.
- ▶ Help stay healthy and cancer free, improve your chances, without drugs.
- ▶ How to rejuvenate your metabolism ... your body burns more fat automatically.
- ▶ If your doctor has told you your arteries are clogged, this 10,000-year-old remedy will help clean them out like a natural Roto-Rooter®.
- ▶ Eating the right combination of foods may even be as important to losing weight as how much you eat.
- ▶ Beware! The 8 warning signs of stroke. Don't ignore any of them.

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The Cure Conspiracy for \$9.99. See coupon.

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"What You Should Never Drink If You're Taking High Blood Pressure Medicine!"

(By Frank K. Wood)

If you want to avoid risky surgery and costly medical bills, you need *Natural Cures and Gentle Medicines*.

Whether you're concerned about preventing serious disease or interested in treating everyday health problems, this book contains natural alternatives for common ailments, including high blood pressure, arthritis, memory problems, and more.

- ▶ Just a single cup of this refreshing fruit juice daily is enough to keep cholesterol from turning into artery-clogging plaque.
- ▶ Save your eyesight, no matter your age. These foods reduce your risk of blindness in old age by nearly half.
- ▶ Some of the healthiest foods are actually the cheapest — like this 50¢ meal that can help you lose weight and lower your cholesterol.
- ▶ How to keep your vision sharp — nature's all-natural cataract preventers.
- ▶ How to lose weight without even trying! This diet secret works only for women!
- ▶ Your body produces a natural "fountain of youth" that keeps your heart and arteries strong, lowers your cholesterol and blood pressure levels, and stops free radicals from doing damage.
- ▶ Women who eat more of this food are less likely to develop type 2 diabetes.
- ▶ If your home's foundation crumbles and sags, so will your home. As your body's foundation, your

skeleton works the same way. Just 4 diet secrets can do the trick for strong bones that last a lifetime.

- ▶ Vitamins and minerals may keep you from getting colon cancer, even if this awful killer runs in your family. Good news!
- ▶ Fight cancer, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, flu ... even bad breath — just by sipping a steaming cup of this pleasant beverage.
- ▶ Are you sick and tired of spending too much time and too much money on doctors and drugs that fail to help your arthritis? Try this vitamin remedy.
- ▶ Easy ways to boost your metabolism and burn fat.
- ▶ Melt away tension, depression, anger, fatigue, and mental confusion — all without drugs, doctors, or special diets. This cure builds confidence and self-awareness, too.
- ▶ Diabetic? Now help control your blood sugar without insulin or medication. Research shows that this remedy helps regulate glucose, helps you lose weight, and lowers your blood pressure. That's 3 great benefits from one fantastic remedy.
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Kentucky Farm Bureau continues adding to membership base

Staff report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Although it represents one of the smallest states, in terms of population, Kentucky Farm Bureau's continues to hold one of American Farm Bureau's top membership spots.

With 453,123 members, Kentucky Farm

Bureau maintains its hold on third place behind Tennessee and North Carolina, respectively, adding to the membership in 2006 for the 45th consecutive year.

"When you consider that the state of Kentucky has a total population of 4.1 million, which corresponds to the 4.1 million people in the Atlanta metropolitan area, for example, that is significant," said Rick

Whobrey, director of organization at Kentucky Farm Bureau. (Georgia, the fifth-largest Farm Bureau state, has an overall population of about 9 million.)

Kentucky increased its membership base by more than 5,000 in 2006. American Farm Bureau membership also reached historic levels last year, growing by 486,770 to bring the total number of members to 6.1 million.

Whobrey attributed the gains in Kentucky to a strong retention rate among its base membership and marketing campaigns and business decisions — such as last year's dividend and rate reductions — that have been effective in keeping and drawing customers.

Membership is among the criteria used to judge county awards that are handed out at Kentucky Farm Bureau's annual meeting.

In a normal year, Whobrey said, the county with the largest membership gains will have a retention rate of about 95 percent. In 2006, Owsley County kept 97.9 percent of the same people on the roll the previous year and received the top growth award during Kentucky Farm Bureau's annual meeting last month. Simpson and Shelby counties also were recognized for adding to their membership rolls.

Madison County Farm Bureau, which has 5,723 members, was named top county for overall program excellence, replacing Fayette County, which had been the winner for three consecutive years. Lincoln County had won the award Top County Farm Bureau Award the previous eight years.

The top county award headlined more than 100 that were presented during the annual meeting.

In other presentations:

* Outstanding county Farm Bureaus representing each of the organization's 11 districts were: Calloway, Christian, Butler, Monroe, Fayette, Owen, Pulaski, Madison, Clark, Wolfe and Breathitt.

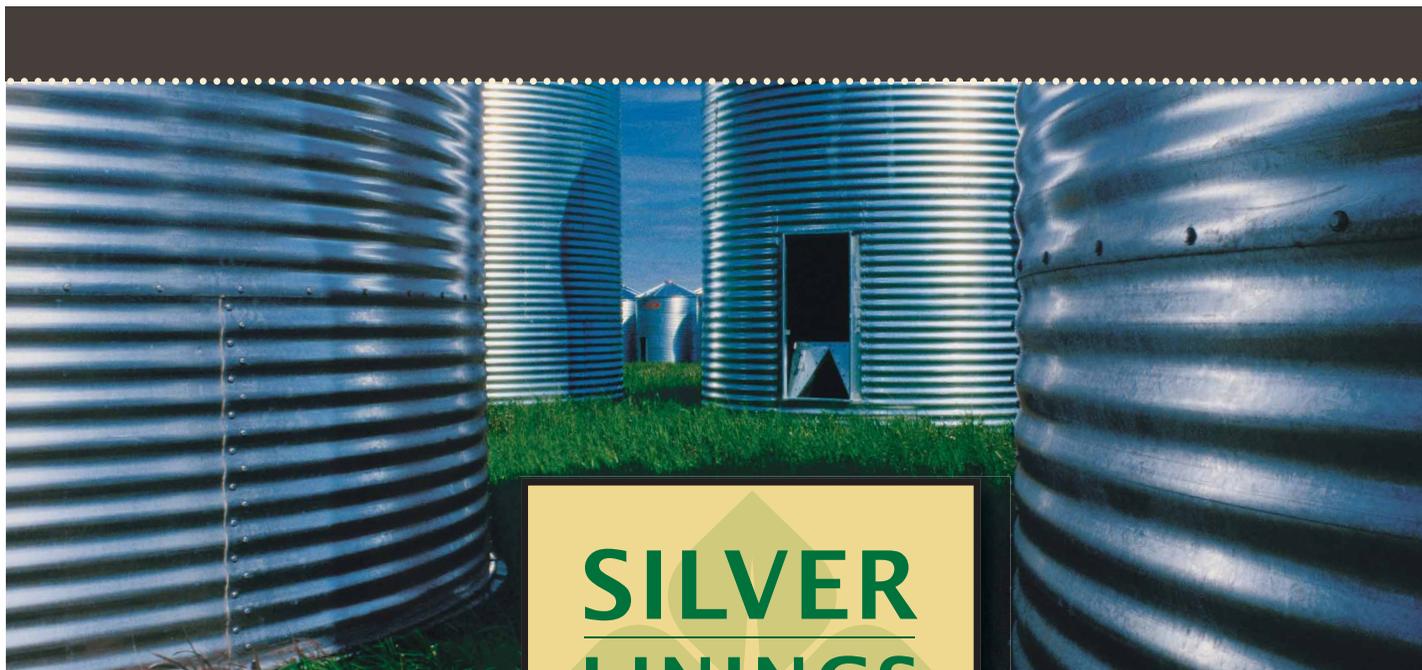
* Special recognition for program participation went to Marion County, and Carter County was cited as the most improved county Farm Bureau.

* Pacesetter awards were given to counties that were first to achieve a membership gain during the year. The award for large counties went to Campbell, followed by Simpson and Owsley in the medium and small categories, respectively.

* Allen and Taylor counties were recognized for having 44 consecutive years of growth.

* Four awards were given for most effective county Farm Bureau information programs. Scott County took first place, Lincoln County second and Monroe and Hardin counties tied for third. Honorable mentions went to Allen, Barren, Jackson, Mercer, Nelson and Union counties.

* Hancock, Breckinridge, Campbell, Clay and Carter won awards for increased business produced by their local Farm Bureau insurance agency



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Kentucky Farm Bureau prepared for 2007's challenges

Kentucky Farm Bureau has ended another eventful year, and I'm pleased to report that we enjoyed a 45th consecutive year of membership growth – an incredible statistic.

And there are so many incredible people to thank. It begins on the local level with the agents, agency staffs, county Farm Bureau leaders and our member/customers who deserve the best programs and services we can offer. And then there are the hundreds of employees at the state level who support the grassroots efforts and local offices. It's a tremendous team effort.

We had a good year in Frankfort. The General Assembly continued to support our Phase One funding for agricultural development, as well as the environmental cost-share program. We ensured the confidentiality of our farm data for the National Animal ID Program. The eminent domain issue was resolved to the benefit of landowners by clarifying that public use does not include private economic development. We successfully defended a number

KENTUCKY grassroots

MARSHAL COYLE | PRESIDENT | KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU



of tax policies that help families – most notably, positive changes to the alternative minimum calculation. And we took part in a joint effort to pass a small business health insurance program.

The next legislative session starts in January. Although 2007 is not a budget year, we expect budget items that were vetoed by the governor during the 2006 General Assembly to be brought back up. They include projects, like the University of Kentucky's Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab, that protect the health and safety of our world famous thoroughbreds as well as family pets.

Some headway was made on national issues, but we must continue to work toward immigration reform, emphasizing our need for a dependable, but legal, workforce to keep a bountiful and affordable supply of food and other crops important to Kentucky's overall economy.

The federal farm bill remains a priority. We formed a committee to look at how we can maximize the farm bill's impact on Kentucky's rural economy. The group took this issue to the country, as they say, by conducting a series of meetings throughout the state. We gained valuable input from this process. We also met with commodity

group leaders and officials from the agencies that administer farm bill programs. We got a good overview of all aspects of this important legislation.

The energy title of the farm bill has never been more important. Kentucky's corn and soybean producers already are benefiting from the boom in biofuels production, and the federal energy policy can go a long way to build upon that growth. Farm Bureau supports the 25-25 provision, which would reduce our reliance on imported oil by one fourth by increasing the supply of renewable fuels produced in the United States.

With more than 25 percent of our agriculture production going into the export market, trade policy is another huge issue. American Farm Bureau has been working very hard on this throughout the course of the World Trade Organization talks. Fortunately, the Bush administration supports our position and hasn't yielded in an effort to create a level playing field for American farmers. They know, as we do,

Continued on page 7

**NOTICE
ANNUAL POLICYHOLDERS' MEETING OF
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY**

The annual meeting of the policyholders of Kentucky Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2007, 10:00 a.m. EST, at the home office of the company, 9201 Bunsen Parkway, Louisville, Kentucky, for the purpose of (1) electing directors of the company, (2) to receive the annual report of its officers, (3) to amend the Articles of Incorporation so that no director shall have any personal liability to the corporation or its members for monetary damages for breach of his duties as a director, except to the extent that the Kentucky Business corporation Act prohibits such liability from being eliminated or limited and (4) to consider any other business that may come before said meeting.

 Secretary

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All Around Kentucky
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KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU



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Grassroots

Continued from page 5

that if given a fair opportunity, American farmers can compete in the international marketplace.

The farm bill also has a forestry title that could help a good number of landowners in Kentucky. During our district meetings we heard many recommendations for expanding that part of the farm bill, as well as the various conservation programs that are so widely utilized in Kentucky.

The national agenda for Farm Bureau also includes preserving the cuts in estate and capital gains taxes. We've been working on those two issues for many years, and I'm hoping for the day when Congress comes to

its senses and buries the death tax.

There is great concern about the soaring cost of health insurance for Kentuckians living in the state's smallest town to neighborhoods in our larger cities. Farm Bureau leadership continually has been looking for ways to alleviate this problem. We've been battling the big health insurance companies over high rates and limited options in the marketplace. It has been frustrating and we know many are not pleased with the situation.

We've put together a committee of highly knowledgeable individuals to look at ways to address this problem. We will be exploring a number of options to serve our members, including state legislation.

The year ahead promises to bring changes that will affect our lives and our livelihoods. As always, we need to be prepared.

Farm wife and WKU student awarded KFB scholarship

Staff report

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

A Barren County mother of two, who is pursuing a degree in office systems technology and management, was awarded Kentucky Farm Bureau's sixth annual Women's Educational Grant.

Rebecca Tracy, an owner of Tracy's Registered Holstein Farm, received a \$1,000 scholarship in a program designed for women who are non-traditional students, resuming their education after leaving school earlier in life to fulfill either family or work-related responsibilities.

Tracy, 51, is studying at Western Kentucky University, where she was designated a President's Scholar for the spring and summer 2006 semesters. She and her husband, James, are the parents of two college gradu-

ates: daughter Betsy and son James Curtis.

Tracy was admitted to WKU in 1973 but delayed college to marry her childhood sweetheart and enter the workforce to help support her family. "The good news," she said, "is that my husband and I are still married after 33 years."



BECKY TRACY

NOTICE ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING OF THE FB INSURANCE COMPANY

The annual meeting of the stockholders of The FB Insurance Company will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2007, 2:00 p.m. EST, at the home office of the company, 9201 Bunsen Parkway, Louisville, Kentucky, for the purpose of electing directors of the company and to consider any other business that may come before said meeting.

 Secretary

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Farm editor Burton cited for reporting

Staff report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Sharon Burton, founder and publisher of *The Farmer's Pride*, was cited for her coverage of agriculture as the recipient of the 2006 Kentucky Farm Bureau Communications Award for a writer.

Burton was presented an engraved plaque and a \$300 cash award during a ceremony at Farm Bureau's 87th annual meeting in Louisville. She will also receive an expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., for the annual Farm Bureau Congressional Tour in February.

The award has been presented annually since 1960 to a print journalist whose work contributes to a better public understanding and appreciation of Kentucky agriculture,

farmers and farm problems through newspaper or magazine articles.

Burton co-founded *The Farmer's Pride* in 1989 as a family operation in her hometown of Columbia in southern Kentucky, after the newspaper where she worked



SHARON BURTON

“ceased publication.” She said losing her job was only a temporary setback and it paved the way for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity — the chance to publish a farm newspaper dedicated to covering Kentucky's agriculture industry.

“There have been good days and bad, good years and bad, good times and bad,” said Burton. “But the day that company I worked for ceased publication was a great day for me.”

“It opened doors that would never have opened if I had stayed where I was. When making tough decisions today, I can give some first-hand advice. Know that you could fail. Know that failing is OK; it does not make you a failure. Pray, but don't worry. Work hard, but don't work yourself to death.”

Burton takes pride in covering regional, state and national issues as they relate to Kentucky farmers. She has written extensively on issues such as tobacco payments, immigration regulations and animal ID.

I-65 is the route to take to see the USA's auto icon



Photos courtesy of the National Corvette Museum

America's love affair with 'Vettes and figures from the roadsters storied past on display at Bowling Green museum.

By Herb Sparrow

SPECIAL TO KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

When the first Corvette rolled into Chevrolet dealerships in 1953, it didn't take long to ponder the choices.

"They were all white with red interiors," said Sharon Kinser, a guide at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green. "The only options were an AM radio and a heater. They only made 300 that first year."

Kinser was standing next to No. 262 of those first 300, one of more than 75 Corvettes that are on display at the museum, which honors the history and tradition of what it calls "America's first true sports car."

The classic, sleek lines of the Corvette, whose six generations of styles have evoked names such as Stingray and Shark, are complemented by the museum's building — easily recognizable from Interstate 65 north by its sweeping lines, yellow conical roof and 12-story red spire.

And that's what the architects had in mind. They wanted the structure, which was completed in 1994, to be as attention grabbing as its subject has been for a half-century.



Your first stop after entering the museum — you could head straight to the well-stocked gift shop without paying, but save that for last — is the 200-seat Chevrolet Theater, where a large-screen film, which is shown every 15 minutes, gives an overview of Corvette's history.

You find out that the little two-seat roadster was not an instant success — only about one-third of the 1954 models sold. Enter race-car driver and engineer Zora Arkus-Duntov, who overhauled the design and became the soul of the Corvette.

"Because of him, the Corvette is what it is," Kinser said.

The now-deceased Duntov is so revered that his ashes are in a gold box in a glass display case as you enter the Nostalgia Alley section. They are next to his much used,

unrestored 1974 Corvette, complete with bangs and dents. "He believed the Corvette was to be driven."

Which makes you wonder what he would have thought of a shiny 1979 Corvette on display? "It was only driven to the owner's high-school reunion," Kinser said. "It still has the original oil."

The Corvettes in the museum, which are rotated periodically, range from beautifully preserved cars that have covered many miles of roadways to one-of-a-kind concept models that never saw the highway, from high-speed racers to Indianapolis 500 pace cars.

As its name implies, Nostalgia Alley takes you back to the 1950s and 1960s when Corvette became an American cultural icon. Vintage Corvettes are parked at an actual former Mobile gas station - complete with 25-cent gas; in front of a barbershop; and in a period Chevrolet dealer showroom.

For the mechanically minded, displays in the Performance Area show the evolution of Corvette's engine, drive train and tires. The section also features Corvette racecars from over the years.

More than 30 cars, along with cases of Corvette collectibles and memorabilia, are in the Skydome, the area beneath the conical

roof and spire, which is 140-feet in diameter with a 100-foot-high ceiling.

Throughout the museum are lifelike figures, from a gas station attendant pumping gas from a period pump to car dealer closing a sale to a pit crew changing tires on a racer to Corvette designers, posed in an area with clay and wood models.

The 240-foot-long Atrium that leads back to the lobby and gift shop is lined with representatives of each of the six generations of Corvettes, along with brand new Corvettes waiting for their owners. Today, purchasers of new Corvettes not only have far more options and color choices than in 1953, they also can pick up their car at the museum, which is located just a quarter mile from the General Motors Bowling Green Assembly Plant, where every Corvette for the past 25 years has been made.

Tours of the plant are also available, where you can see the chassis and frame come together in "marriage" and the wheels touch the ground for the first time.

IF YOU GO

The National Corvette Museum is located off Exit 28 on Interstate 65. It is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (C.S.T.), except for Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Admission is \$8 adults, \$4.50 youth (6-16), free for children 5 and under. Group, AAA members, senior and military discounts are available. During February, any Kentuckian gets in for \$1. For more information, 1-800-53VETTE (538-3883) or go to www.corvettemuseum.com.

Corvette Assembly Plant tours are 9 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. Monday-Friday for a \$5 fee. Call 270-745-8019 or visit www.bowlinggreenassembly-plant.com on the Web for more details.



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Deadline nears for farm market certification

Staff report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

March 1 is the deadline to apply for certification as a Kentucky Farm Bureau Certified Roadside Farm Market.

Participation in the 2007 program guarantees placement on Kentucky Farm Bureau's Web site and listing in 40,000 brochures distributed statewide and promotion in ads placed in publications throughout the state.

Kentucky Farm Bureau also sponsors tours of established roadside markets in the region.

Markets in Western Kentucky and southwestern Indiana are on a two-day itinerary scheduled for July. In October, a one-day visit to Haney's Appledale Farm in Pulaski County is planned.

In 2006, there were a record number of

markets – 78 - in the program, said J.K. Henshaw, Kentucky Farm Bureau's director of commodity relations. Henshaw said he expects more fruit, vegetable and flower producers to participate this year based on the number of inquiries he has received so far in advance of the deadline.

To qualify, a producer must:

Be a Farm Bureau member; pay the \$250 Certified Roadside Farm Market annual fee (\$25 discount for renewals and \$50 discount for new enrollments received by Jan. 31); sell from a permanent or semi-permanent structure; produce the majority of products sold; comply with federal, state and local health, safety and environmental regulations.

For more information, contact Henshaw at 502-495-5106 or e-mail him at roadside@kyfb.com.

Schedule set for latest enrollees in classes to develop farm leaders

Staff report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Members of the 2007-08 Kentucky Farm Bureau Leadership Enhancement for Agricultural Development, or LEAD, class are ready to begin their lessons to continue honing their skills as leaders in the communities and the agriculture industry.

LEAD is designed to identify Farm Bureau members between the ages of 25 and 40 who are currently involved in agriculture or a related business and provide them with the essential skills to take on leadership roles and to assist them in their personal and professional growth. Participants are nominated and selected by their local county Farm Bureau presidents.

During the two-year program, participants will learn methods to access and process information, analyze and evaluate issues, form their own beliefs and discuss them clearly and effectively. Areas to be covered throughout the period include personal and professional development, leadership skills, agriculture technology, the legislative process and Farm Bureau's role and involvement in lobbying issues affecting agriculture.

The class will participate in six 2-day meetings, two Farm Bureau state annual meetings, the 2007 Congressional Tour to Washington, D.C., and an out-of-state agricultural tour in 2008.

Taking part in the newest class are:

Darrin Benton, an agent at Muhlenberg County Farm Bureau Insurance Agency; Brian Clark, a farmer and vice president of Community Trust Bank in Flemingsburg; Mason County farmer Danny Collins; Joel David Cook, farm manager for Cook Farms in Simpson County; Nathan Courtney of Georgetown, a farmer and financial services officer for Farm Credit Services of Mid-America;

Stephen DeBord, farmer, apprentice lineman and a director of the Pulaski County Farm Bureau; Erin Jury, agriculture teacher at Campbell County High School; Micah Lester, manager of Lester Farms in Gracey; Mitchell Logsdon of Munfordville, a finalist in the 2006 Kentucky Farm Bureau Outstanding Young Farm Family contest;

Brad Mattingly of Lebanon, a dairy farmer and internal auditor/assistant compliance officer at Farmers National Bank; Logan County extension agent and farmer Chris Milam of Olmstead; Tom Miller, Ballard County extension agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources; Lindsey Miller of Elizabethtown, market segment specialist at Farm Credit Services of Mid-America in Louisville;

Roger Miller, a Garrard County farmer, owner of Miller's Mulch and Landscape and administrator for Whitaker Bank Corp.; Julie Perkins, a Boyd County horse trainer and teacher; and Nick Whobrey of Hustonville, project analyst for the Governor's Office of Agriculture Policy.

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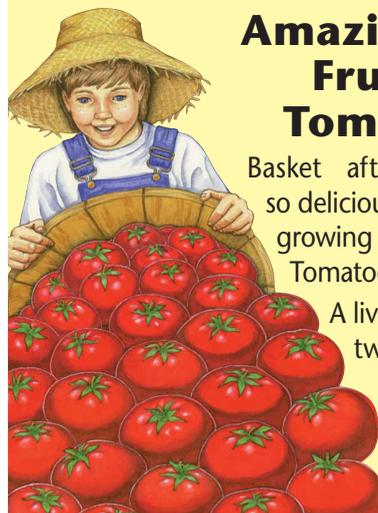
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Burke representing Kentucky in national farm discussion meet

Staff Report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Lindsey Burke of Eminence will represent Kentucky during the annual American Farm Bureau Discussion Meet in January.

Burke earned her way to the national competition for young farmers by taking first place in the Kentucky Farm Bureau Discussion Meet that was held as part of the organization's annual meeting last month.

As the Kentucky winner, Burke had the choice of a Kawasaki Mule or ATV donated by Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co. She also won \$500 from the Dodge Truck Division of DaimlerChrysler and Kawasaki accessories from Jacobi Sales Inc.

Runner-up in the meet was Aaron Reding of Howardstown, who received \$1,000 from Kentucky Farm Bureau.



Lindsey Burke

Two other finalists in the state-level contest were Jack Lane of Lexington and Clint Quarles of Georgetown. Each received \$200 from Kentucky Farm Bureau.

Ten other entrants in the Discussion Meet who competed in preliminary rounds earlier in the year were:

Brad Brammell, Grayson; Derek Smith, Hardinsburg; Roger D. Miller, Lancaster; Angelia Napier, Crab Orchard; Eric Heard, Auburn; Jay McElwain, Belton; Matthew Simpson, Bardstown; Stephen DeBord, Eubank; Heather Ragan, Bowling Green; and Andrew Jackson, Corbin.

The Discussion Meet tests entrants on their basic knowledge of critical farm issues and their ability to respond in a panel setting to differing points of view.

The four finalists were judged on their response to the question: "How can American agriculture increase the opportunities for new uses of traditional agricultural products?"

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- Corn and callus relief
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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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Specialty catalogs brighten gardeners' gloomy wintry days

By Jeneen Wiche

SPECIAL TO KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

February is undoubtedly the hardest month for gardeners to weather. The January need for rest is gone; we're just bored. And the catalogs that fill the mail box on a cold, gloomy day make the itch to garden most urgent.

Like most gardeners, I like to peruse the pages of catalogs, but I am discerning when it comes to the bottom line. Not everyone gets my money. A catalog that has it all typically makes me nervous and outrageous claims don't impress me. In short, buy from companies with experts who know their products and clearly explain how to grow them.

We rely on specialty catalogs for many of our vegetable seeds and specialty crops, tropical summer vines, heirloom varieties of plants and fruit trees and berries. Ordering early is wise because supplies can be limited with smaller companies. Most suppliers will ship plants based on the recommended planting time in our zone; seeds, though, come when ordered.

For early March plantings of potatoes and onions, I have some favorites.

Wood Prairie Farm (800-829-9765 or www.woodprairie.com) in Bridgewater, Maine, has the best organic seed potatoes. You can choose from a variety of potatoes based on moisture content (which determines the ideal cooking method), growing time, color, disease resistance or storage ability. The catalog offers a wide selection of certified organic seed potatoes. Wood Prairie Farm also sells whole grains, offering spelt, meal, ryes and wheat for the kitchen.

At farmers' markets, it sometimes seems that all the onion people get their seeds and starts from Dixondale Farm (877-367-1015 or www.dixondalefarms.com) in Texas, which has a catalog that explains the selection process based on day length. Dixondale specifies what onion varieties will work for the different zones in Kentucky, whether it is "Candy," "Contessa" or "Big Daddy."

As flavorful heirloom varieties have made a comeback, the number of catalogs offering interesting, ethnic, specialty and resurrected vegetable also has increased. My favorites include Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds (417-

924-8917 or www.RareSeeds.com); Territorial Seed Co. (800-626-0866 or www.territorialseed.com); Seeds of Change (888-762-7333 or www.seed-sofchange.com);

for early winter harvest. The "Fortex" green bean and "Mr. Big" shelling pea will be in my garden again next summer. (The bean and pea inoculant is on the list so the plants fix nitrogen, improving the

the black-eyed Susan (in white, yellow and peach), Spanish flag and the purple bell vine.

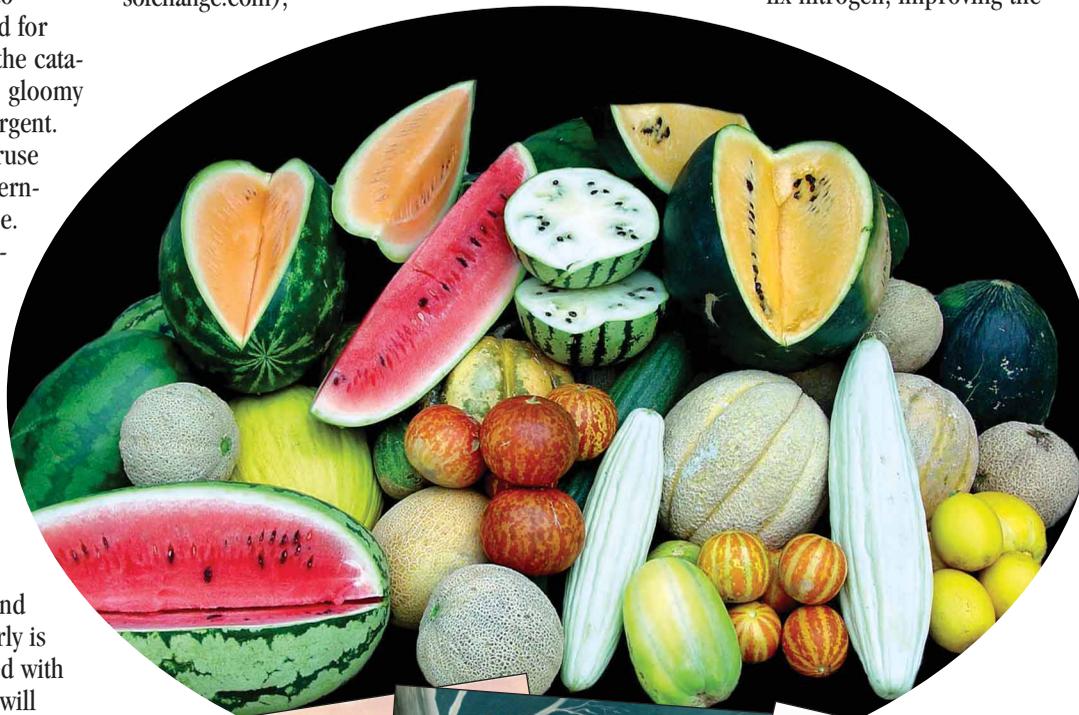
Fruit trees, nuts and berries are specialty crops that often require catalog shopping in order to find the best selection. Fortunately, we have some local sources from which to choose. If you want nuts, try Nolin River Nuts (270-369-8551 or www.nolinnursery.com) in Upton, Ky., which offers grafted varieties in black walnut, hickory, hican, pecan, persimmon and more. John Brittan, the owner, provides you with the exact cultural information needed to get your trees off to a good start.

The Indiana Berry and Plant Co. (800-295-2226 or www.inberry.com) can hook you up with blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, strawberries and more. One Green World (877-353-4028 or www.onegreenworld.com) can take care of the weirder things you may be in search of: Ukrainian persimmons, medlar, jujube or figs, perhaps?

Gardens Alive (513-354-1482 or www.gardensalive.com) in Lawrenceburg, Ind., rounds out the list. Gardens Alive is

always there for us when we need something organic to protect our garden: neem oil, biofungicides and insecticides, natural fertilizers, weed killers and more.

This list is by no means exhaustive of the reliable catalog companies useful to gardeners; they are, however, companies that I have had experience with and that have maintained good reputations among gardeners. I hope they may be useful for your search of the rare, unusual or old-fashioned plant that has been on your mind since winter weather arrived.



and Pinetree Garden Seeds. The catalogs are not just full of planting choices but also are educational and entertaining.

The Cook's Garden (800-457-9703 or www.cooksgarden.com) is a good source for filling the kitchen garden with greens, baby lettuces and herbs. Try the company's "Kentucky Bibb" in the spring; then move on to mixes that can beat the heat of summer. By late summer, plant tangy arugula

microbial health of the soil. For heirloom summer annuals, we like the unusual selection offered by Select Seeds (800-684-0395 or www.selectseeds.com). You'll find old-fashioned sweet peas, violas, nicotiana, morning glories and more. My sister and I like the tropical vine selection. The fast growing annual vines can cover a trellis in a couple of weeks once the heat of summer arrives. We've tried the Mexican flame vine,

About the author: Jeneen Wiche writes a weekly syndicated garden column for statewide distribution and, in Louisville, co-hosts "HomeGrown" on WFPL-FM and produces a gardening segment for WDRB-TV. She lives in Simpsonville, where she and husband Andrew Smart care for Swallow Rail, the 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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Wal-Mart 'salutes' Triple T Farm & Greenhouse in Pulaski County

Staff report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Triple T Farm & Greenhouse in Pulaski County is being featured with banners at produce counters filled with the Nancy operation's fresh herbs at Wal-Mart stores in the region as part of the retail giant's "Salute to America's Farmers."

"We understand that consumers want to purchase quality products that help support the local economy, and we are proud of our ability to bring wholesome, home-grown selections to our customers in Kentucky," said Bruce Peterson, senior vice president

of Wal-Mart Stores Inc.'s perishable foods division.

Triple T switched from tobacco to fresh herbs about six years ago. Now the family-owned agriculture business supplies fresh cut and packaged basil, dill, chives, rosemary and mint. Wal-Mart, which has a distribution center in nearby London, annually buys about 29,000 cases of the herbs pro-

duced by Triple T.

Through January, Triple T's position as a major regional Wal-Mart supplier will be highlighted on signs created for in-store promotions of the "Salute to American Farmers" program. Wal-Mart began its "Salute to American Farmers" in September and is showcasing individual growers from four states every month at stores near the

suppliers' location.

Tim Tarter, president of Triple T, said the relationship with Wal-Mart - the nation's largest retailer - has meant that "we've been able to expand and diversify our market, opening new doors for us and allowing us to bring more fresh herbs to homes throughout Kentucky and the surrounding area."

PR award goes to Daviess County extension agent

Staff report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Clint Hardy, the Daviess County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources, is the recipient of the 20th annual Kentucky Farm Bureau Farm Public Relations Award.

Hardy, who was honored last month during Kentucky Farm Bureau's annual meeting in Louisville, was awarded a plaque and \$300 for his contributions to generating a better public understanding of agriculture.

Hardy, in his role as Daviess County Extension Agent, has been a staunch sup-



porter and promoter of agriculture. He writes a weekly news column for The Messenger-Inquirer, covering a variety of agricultural topics and offering current recommendations to producers and residents for the daily newspaper that serves Owensboro and surrounding communities.

He also is a frequent resource of information on ag-related issues for all media in the area.

Hardy is a graduate of Western Kentucky University, where he received a master's degree in agriculture.

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Success with muck, turf grasses and traditional crops put young Fayette couple in running for national title

Staff Report

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

A Fayette County couple, John and Jill Mahan, are the winners of Kentucky Farm Bureau's Outstanding Young Farm Family annual contest.

They will now compete for the national title at the American Farm Bureau annual meeting in Salt Lake City in early January.

Second place in the Kentucky Farm Bureau judging that was based on farm management skills, financial growth and Farm Bureau and community involvement went to Mitchel and Gala Logsdon of Hart County. Scott and Mary Ann Porter of Fleming County placed third in the competition, which is open to couples and single persons up to 35 years old.

As the winners, the Mahans received a Kubota RTV provided by Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance Cos. and Kubota; \$1,000 from Premier Crop Insurance, \$500 from the Dodge Truck Division of Daimler-Chrysler; a \$500 voucher from Southern

States Cooperative; a \$600 voucher from Miles Seed; and expenses to participate in the national finals.

The Logsdons were awarded 300 hours free use of a Kubota tractor, \$750 from Premier and a \$300 voucher from Southern States. The Porters received 100 hours free use of a New Holland tractor, \$500 from Premier and \$200 Southern States voucher.

The Mahans, who have been farming for 13 years, will use their farm-related winnings on their diversified operations, which include tobacco, grain, beef cattle and alfalfa hay. They also recycle horse muck from nearby farms and have a turf-grass sod company. They own 251 acres and lease an additional 1,400 acres.

John, who majored in production agriculture at the University of Kentucky, is a fourth-generation farmer whose great grandfather was the first agricultural extension agent in the state. Jill comes from a fifth-generation family farm, and she has a communications degree from Morehead State University. She works fulltime in the farming operation, handling recordkeep-

ing, payroll and personnel matters.

Their muck business has been especially successful.

"Our farming operation is right in the middle of horse country," John said, "and so we came up with a way to profit from the biggest byproduct of the thoroughbred industry. We



John and Jill Mahan are parents, farmers and contenders in national AFBF competition.

have partnered with a local hay and straw broker to rebale the slightly used straw muck. The broker delivers the muck to our farm, where we begin the recycling process. We are paid for every semi load that is produced."

The Mahans also board horses. "We have several enterprises other than traditional agriculture that complement and diversify our farming operation as well as better utilize our labor force. Each of these enterprises is targeted at our surrounding markets. We simply recognized a need and figured out how to profit from it."

John is a director of Fayette County Farm Bureau and is on the board of the Kentucky Corn Growers Association. He's a member of the county extension service steering committee, National Hay Growers Association, Turfgrass Producers International and Kentucky Soybean Association. He's also a graduate of the Philip Morris Ag Leadership Program, as well as Kentucky Farm Bureau's leadership program.

The couple have a 1-year-old child.

The Logsdons are beef cattle and tobacco farmers with a 530-acre operation, including 195 acres that they own. They have about 125 Angus cows in a commercial cow-calf operation and also raise beef replacement heifers.

Mitchel, who holds an animal sciences degree from Western Kentucky University, has been farming on his own for 12 years and had a dairy until two years ago when he sold a herd of Holstein and switched to beef cattle.

The Logsdons have been members of Hart County Farm Bureau for 13 years and have been recognized as the county's outstanding young farm family. He has served on the Hart County Farm Bureau board of directors since 2002 and is also active with the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association.

Gala is a nurse, and the couple are the parents of three children, ages 6, 3 and 5 months.

The Porters own 1,028 acres with a variety of forages and a large cattle operation. Scott said he decided to concentrate on cattle after finding a market for quality dairy heifers. Over the past few years, he has moved from a cow-calf operation to stockers.

His main goal, he said, has been to improve efficiency and preserve his natural resources.

Scott has been on the Fleming County Farm Bureau board of directors since 2001 and is active in the young farmer program. He also is a member of the Farm Credit Services advisory board and received a beef cattle proficiency award from the Kentucky Young Farmer Association.

Mary Ann is an elementary school teacher. The Porters have three children, ages 4, 2 and six months.

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NOTICE ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING OF KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance Agency, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2007, 3:00 p.m. EST, at the home office of the company, 9201 Bunsen Parkway, Louisville, Kentucky, for the purpose of electing directors of the company and to consider any other business that may come before said meeting.

 Secretary

Daniel Gaston takes over as leader of young farmer committee

Staff report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Daniel Gaston of Russellville is the new leader of the Kentucky Farm Bureau's Young Farmer Advisory Committee, succeeding Daniel Smith of Stamping Ground to the one-year post.

Other new officers selected during Kentucky Farm Bureau annual meeting in December were Ryan Bivens of Hodgenville, vice chair, and Alison Smith of Stamping Ground, secretary.

Cathy Pleasants of Stanford was re-elected as head of the Women's Advisory Committee during the annual meeting. Also re-elected to positions on the women's committee were Frieda Heath of Hickory, first vice chair, and Phyllis Amyx, Campton, second

vice chair. Jane Elam of Lexington continues to be a member of the executive committee as immediate past chair.

Eleven couples and individuals, including officers, serve on the young farmers committee. The 2007 members are: Chris and Misty Thorn, Almo; Micah and Lauren Lester, Gracey; Ryan and Misty Bivens, Hodgenville; Daniel and Amy Gaston, Russellville; Eric Sweazy, Taylorsville; Daniel and Alison Smith, Stamping Ground; Stephen Williams, Monticello; Jason and Tori Gaffney, Lancaster; Robert McClanahan,



Daniel Gaston

Butler; Brent and Angela Blankenship, Pikeville; and Shad and Melanie Baker, Jenkins.

Joining the officers of the Women's Advisory Committee this year are: Bettie

Wallace, Princeton; Betty Farris, Roundhill; Vickie Bryant, Tompkinsville; Michelle Armstrong, Taylorsville; Pam Chappell,

Owenton; Carol Sullivan, Campbellsville; Jeanne Ellis, Mt. Olivet; Margaret Hensley, Manchester; and Terry Gilbert, Danville.

Muhlenberg teacher recipient of top excellence in ag award

Four Excellence in Agriculture awards were presented during the December's annual meeting of Kentucky Farm Bureau, with Jay McElwain of Belton taking top honors and the chance to represent Kentucky nationally.

McElwain is ag education teacher and FFA advisor at Muhlenberg North High School. He also helps operate a black angus cattle farm.

In addition to receiving expenses to the American Farm Bureau competition this month in Salt Lake City, McElwain was presented with a John Deere Gator, courtesy of Farm Credit Services of Mid-America, and \$500 from Dodge Truck Division of DaimlerChrysler.

When he competes for top national honors, McElwain also will be vying for a 1500 Dodge Ram Quad Cab pickup truck. Three runners-up will be awarded \$2,000 U.S. Savings Bonds and Farm Boss chain saws.

Second place in the Kentucky contest went to Roger and Brandi Miller of Lancaster. They received \$400 from Kentucky Farm Bureau.

The other finalists were Charlie Edgington of Lexington and Terry Ishmael of Flemingsburg. Kentucky Farm Bureau gave them \$200 each.

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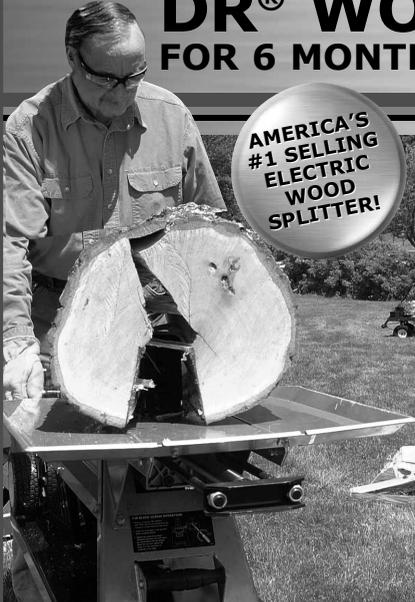
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KFB accepting applications for college scholarships

Staff report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Applications are now being accepted for Kentucky Farm Bureau's 2007 Education Foundation scholarships.

The foundation annually awards thousands of dollars in scholarships to high school seniors with top scholastic and leadership backgrounds. Scholarships totaling more than \$1.4 million have been handed out since the program began in 1953.

To be eligible, applicants must be the child of a Kentucky Farm Bureau member (only the Leadership in Agriculture and new Sam Moore scholarships are limited to children in farming families); have either a 3.5 cumulative grade point average or 23 ACT



score; finish high school this year; and plan to enter college in the 2007 fall semester.

Application forms are available at county Farm Bureau offices or on the Web at www.kyfb.com (click on "organization").

All applications must be postmarked by Feb. 28 to be considered or hand delivered to the state office in Louisville by that date.

Winners will be notified by May 15.

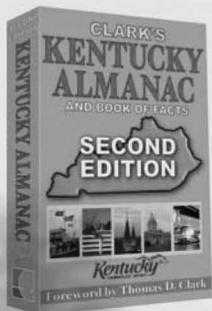
Scholarships can be applied to tuition, housing and books; payments are made directly to the school the students select to attend.

Recipients may enter any accredited college but must pursue a four-year course of study. In addition to the state program, many county Farm Bureaus administer their own scholarship programs. Check with your local office for details.

Champion servers



Beth Wisman, principal assistant at Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation, far right, helped serve a holiday meal at a Louisville homeless shelter. The meal featured the Champion Market Lamb that was purchased by a group, including Farm Bureau and Louisville-based businesses Producer Feeds, Stock Yards Bank & Trust Co. and Feeders Supply Co., during the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville. Joining Wisman in the serving line were Tom Logue, KFB's operations director; Brent Williams, Producer Feeds; L. B. Hocker, Stockyards; Jack Ragsdale, chairman of the livestock show's executive committee; and Pam Longwell, Feeders.



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Veteran farmers honored for service to Kentucky and national ag industry

Staff report
KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Two longtime Kentucky Farm Bureau members were recognized for their contributions to agriculture and the organization during the annual meeting, which was held in Louisville.

Daviess County farmer Bill Kuegel Sr. received the award for distinguished service to agriculture. And William R. Sprague of Union County was named the 2006 winner of the annual Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau Award.

Sprague, 67, served as president of the state's largest farm organization from 1992-98 and was a state director for 31 years. He has been active in Farm Bureau for 41 of the 42 years he has been farming.

Kuegel, 82, has farmed for 60 years, beginning with a small dairy and tobacco operation

friend since 1946," said Daviess County Farm Bureau president Jeff Berry. "He has been a leader in the burley tobacco field and has worked to develop new markets for Kentucky products to find financial support for Kentucky farmers."

He has served on the advisory boards for colleges of agriculture at the University of Kentucky and Western Kentucky University, where he also was a trustee. He currently is on the boards for Georgetown College and Brescia University.

Sprague has played a vital role in promoting the agriculture industry to the general public and in championing agriculture issues in the political arena.

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell was among those endorsing Sprague for his award, writing:

"I appreciate and respect his insight. The Kentucky Farm Bureau has thrived under his enthusiastic and visionary leadership. Bill has worked tirelessly to strengthen the farming communities across Kentucky and the nation." Sprague was raised on a Union County farm and earned a degree in ag engineering from the University of Kentucky. He started his own farming operation in 1964 and gradually expanded to more than 4,000 acres of row crops.

He began his service to Farm Bureau as young farmer chair in Union County and rose through the ranks to serve as chair of both state and national Farm Bureau Young Farmer committees. He remains active with the Union County Farm Bureau.

After retiring from the presidency of Kentucky Farm Bureau, Sprague was named by American Farm Bureau President Bob Stallman to serve as chairman of a national committee that developed recommendations for future farm policy during a two-year process. The report from the so-called "Making American Agriculture Profitable" committee was widely acclaimed.

Sprague has received countless awards for his service to agriculture. Progressive Farmer Magazine named him the "farmer of the year" in Kentucky for 1994. He has been selected for distinguished service awards from the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, the Kentucky Soybean Association and the Kentucky Pork Producers Association. He received a top

award from the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts.

Former Gov. Brereton Jones appointed Sprague to the Kentucky Economic Development Commission. Sprague also has served on the National Beef Council and was chairman of Kentucky Friends of 4-H.

In political circles, Sprague is well known for championing tobacco, trade and environmental issues. He was a delegate to the 1998 World Trade Organization meetings in Seattle, where he spoke on the importance of free trade policies to American farmers.

Union County Farm Bureau president Mary Nelle White said Sprague is widely respected for his enthusiasm and dedication. "His leadership in local and state positions has guided our organization through many difficulties and he has truly been the spokesman for the Kentucky farmer."

In a letter of support from 1st District Congressman Ed Whitfield said, "I consider Bill a true friend of the agriculture industry."



Kuegel



Sprague

and eventually forming a partnership with three brothers on more than 4,000 acres.

He currently has a partnership with his son, Rod, a former executive director of the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association. They produce grain, tobacco and cattle.

Kuegel was a tobacco warehouseman in Owensboro for 35 years. His involvement in agricultural leadership positions includes four years as chairman of the State Fair Board during his 13 years with the group. He is a former national president of the Burley Tobacco Warehouse Association.

He has long been active in support of FFA, garnering service awards on the local, state and national levels and was instrumental in helping to bring the national FFA convention to Louisville for a seven-year run.

Kuegel has received the "Man of the Year" award from Progressive Farmer Magazine and the Thomas Poe Cooper Award for Outstanding Service to Agriculture.

"Bill has been a farmer and a farmer's



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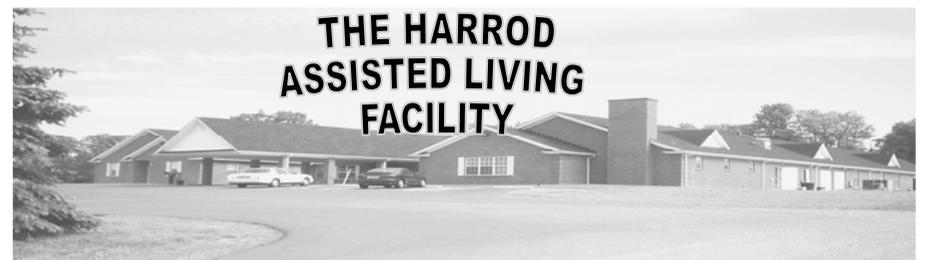
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Backroads

Continued from page 1

The Kentucky connection is the reason that the broadcast team at Kentucky Farm Bureau selected the store for a feature in "Bluegrass and Backroads," a television series produced by the organization and aired by stations and cable services serving most of Kentucky and carried nationwide on DirectTV and Dish satellite systems.



Photo by Rachael Kamuf

**Mike Feldhaus is the host of
Kentucky Farm Bureau's production
of "Bluegrass and Backroads".**

"We concentrate on what is unique to the state," said Bob Shrader, Kentucky Farm Bureau's video production coordinator and coproducer of "Bluegrass and Backroads."

The story of the Christmas in Kentucky shop is one of three segments planned for the first show in the "Bluegrass and Backroads" fourth season, which begins in January.

Shrader and coproducer Matt Hilton, a video specialist at Kentucky Farm Bureau, have traveled throughout the state in a search for special stories. "It is an unusual season in that we are doing everything from Chaney's Dairy Barn in Bowling Green (a working dairy with an ice cream parlor that has become an agri-tourist attraction) to the University of Kentucky's sports museum

adjacent to Rupp Arena," Shrader said.

"That is what makes this job so much fun," he said. "We get to meet so many interesting people and see interesting places and things."

The response has been widespread, too, with viewers from as far away as California contacting companies featured in past seasons to place orders or calling Shrader and Hilton with suggestions for future "Bluegrass and Backroads." At the recommendation of one out-of-state viewer, Shrader said, each story now includes a map showing the subject's location.

The "Bluegrass and Backroads" schedule for 2007 includes scenes from the October re-enactment of the Battle of Perryville, which attracted thousands of Civil War re-enactors from throughout the country. Although technically a victory for the Confederacy, the bloody skirmish on the Perryville battlefield was a turning point in the federal army's efforts to take control of Kentucky.

The program on Perryville's place in American history will highlight another aspect of the role that officially neutral Kentucky played during the War Between the States as the birthplace of the leaders of the opposing forces: Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States, and Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America.

A more whimsical look at Kentucky's history will highlight Penn's Store in Gravel Switch, which opened in 1850 and is the oldest general store in the United States operated continuously by the same family.

The "Bluegrass and Backroads" segment on the Penn family's store will highlight the 15th annual Outhouse Races, which pits decorated "necessaries" from the past fitted with wheels for the competition. The feature also notes that the store sells groceries, sandwiches and dry goods in the original wooden structure built by the Penns' ancestors.

More modern wheels will be on display in a segment on RC Components Inc., a Bowling Green company that is the country's largest independent manufacturer of chrome alloy wheels for motorcycles.

Current events are also on the schedule, including a feature on the St. James Art Show in Louisville. The juried show, which draws thousands of people every fall to the architecturally rich Old Louisville neighborhood, is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2007. The event has been selected by artists-vendors as the best fine arts show in the country, and annually rates as one of the Top 20 tourist attractions in the southeast

Continued on page 25

Backroads

Continued from page 24

by the Southeastern Tourism Society.

"Bluegrass and Backroads" also will introduce viewers to the Challenger Learning Center in Hazard, where school children experience a space mission from take off to landing. Financially supported by the survivors of the astronauts who died in the 1986 Space Shuttle Challenger tragedy, the encounter with space travel begins before students visit the center as they use math and science skills to simulate the work that must be done prior to launch.

Application of their studies continues throughout the simulation. "I wish I had that experience when I was in school," Hilton said.

**"We concentrate on what is
unique to the state."**

- Bob Shrader

Video production coordinator
Kentucky Farm Bureau

Variety is an aim of "Bluegrass and Backroads" as illustrated by a planned feature on the work taking place in Shelby County at The Luci Center, a therapeutic riding center for children and young adults with special needs.

Agricultural practices of the 21st Century and Colonial days also are on the tap for the 2007 season.

Aquaculture will be the theme of a segment on the Minor E. Clark Fish Hatchery in Morehead. It is one of two suppliers that stock publicly owned lakes in the state. Another feature will show scenes from Mountain Home Place, a working farm in Johnson County that replicates life in Appalachian communities in the mid 19th Century.

Shrader and Hilton have a stack of papers filled with future story ideas, and they said they always are on the lookout for people, places and things that have not come to their attention yet. They are especially interested in ag-related topics to reinforce the economic impact farming continues to have on the state's rural and urban communities.

They said some of the most interesting topics have been recommended by viewers. "We are always open for ideas. We're looking for that person who has no Web site yet but does something really interesting," Hilton said. "We want someone who has a story to tell. But the story has to say Kentucky."

Mike Feldhaus, Kentucky Farm Bureau's broadcast services director, is the host of "Bluegrass and Backroads," which is available nationally to satellite subscribers over the RFD-TV network at 2 p.m. and midnight (E.S.T.) on Wednesday and 6 a.m. (E.S.T.) on Thursday. On the Dish Network, RFD is on Channel 9409; on Direct TV, the network is on Channel 379.

In Louisville, the show can be seen at 8 p.m. Sunday on Insight Cable Channel 2. WBKI-TV in Louisville and Lexington air the program at 6:30 a.m. Saturday.

Coverage in Northern Kentucky is provided through Northern Kentucky Cable Channel 6 at 9 a.m. Saturday. FGA-TV, the cable system serving Fleming and Lewis counties, puts it on the air at 7 p.m. on Tuesday and Friday. (WYMT-TV in Hazard will begin carrying "Bluegrass and Backroads" in April at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday.)

In the central time zone, the show is broadcast by: WEHT-TV (Evansville, Ind.) at 6:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday; WPSD-TV in Paducah at 5 a.m. Saturday; WKAG-TV in Hopkinsville at 11:30 a.m. Sunday; and Bowling Green's WBKO-TV at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Check local listings for cable coverage and schedule changes.



Photo courtesy of the Luci Center

The Luci Center, a therapeutic riding center, is featured in the new season of "Bluegrass and Backroads," which airs in Kentucky and nationwide.

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CALL 1-800-957-5630

Deals

Continued from page 1

"It's an enhanced service to members," Beck said. "We feel this will be well accepted throughout the state."

Kelly Kamm, who directs GM's marketing efforts, said the automaker was "very excited to be entering into a relationship with the Kentucky Farm Bureau."

She said the offer should be attractive to members because 2007 models have been equipped with new technology to make them more "efficient and safe." Two new trucks with more towing capability also have been introduced, she said.

There are some exclusions in the GM program, such as the HUMMER H1, Corvette Z06 and Cadillac XLR. But other models in the HUMMER, Corvette and Cadillac lines, including Escalades, are eligible for the \$500 discount.

GM has another discount program for

Kentucky Farm Bureau members, deducting \$750 from the cost of 17 E-85 vehicles that can be fueled by a blend of 15 percent gasoline and 85 percent ethanol. The ethanol component is distilled from corn and other renewable grains produced by farmers throughout Kentucky and Farm Belt states.

The discounts are available to anyone who has been a Kentucky Farm Bureau member for at least 30 days prior to a purchase. Buyers must present their membership cards.

Eventually, dealers will have access to a secure Web site to verify membership online, eliminating the need to produce a card, said Dwight Greenwell, Kentucky Farm Bureau's director of member services. "GM wants it to be as simple as possible for the customer," he said.

The new GM discounts are among about two dozen cost-saving services available to each of Kentucky Farm Bureau's 453,123 members through the organization's ValueMax program.

Grainger Industrial Supply, for example, provides discounts of 10 percent to 30 percent on more than 200,000 maintenance, repair and supply items. Sherwin-Williams dealers throughout Kentucky deduct 25 percent from the cost of paint, wall coverings

and accessories purchased by Kentucky Farm Bureau members.

For travelers, there are year-round discounts at all lodges in the Kentucky State Park system and motels operated by Choice Hotels/S.O.S. and Candant Hotel chains. And Enterprise Rent-A-Car will give deductions to Kentucky Farm Bureau members renting its vehicles on a daily and weekly basis.

Chains in the Choice Hotel family include Comfort, Quality, Sleep, Clarion, EconoLodge, Rodeway Inn and Mainstay Suites. Days Inn, Travelodge, Howard Johnson, Knights Inn, Ramada and Wingate are Candant ValuMax participants.

Other ValuMax programs include LASIK procedures offered by Amerisight providers; prescription drug savings through Heartland Prescriptions and Bio Scrip; Farm Bureau Bank services; PowerNet Global long-distance telephone discounts; home security systems; and a \$5,000 reward paid by Kentucky Farm Bureau for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone committing theft,

vandalism, arson or insurance fraud on members' property.

For more information on the GM discounts and other ValueMax participants, contact Greenwell at 502-495-5000 or by e-mail at dgreenwell@kyfb.com.



Photo courtesy of General Motors Corp.

Trucks are included in incentives General Motors Corp. is offering Kentucky Farm Bureau members. Discounts of \$750 are available on 17 models of E-85 vehicles that can be fueled by a blend of gasoline and renewable ethanol.

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Student-farmer builds future in cattle industry on her heritage

WOMEN KENTUCKY

LALIE DICK | COLUMNIST

By Lalie Dick

SPECIAL TO KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

“There’s a lot of water in that creek and a whole lot of soul in that land,” I said aloud as I drove back down the ridge from Brandy Graves’ parent’s home.

Brandy is 22 years old and a senior at Morehead State University, where she studies animal sciences during the week. On the weekends - at her family’s farm - she lives what her textbooks teach.

When I arrived for a visit, Brandy was walking through her herd of cattle with a feed bucket - the animals as comfortable with her as she was with them.

She took her time, spoken words not necessary, but a scratch or two behind large furry ears seemed to be appreciated.

Brandy is rooted in the soil and the richness of it.

When she graduates this spring, she’ll be looking for a position in the cattle industry; her foundation for a fulfilling life is on the land farmed by the generations that have gone before her.

“I’ve always farmed ... couldn’t stand it in town,” she says as we sit in the living room where Brandy’s mother, Belinda, listens approvingly. She, too, doesn’t want to live anywhere but in the country. There’s a

sense of freedom, plenty of room for elbows and hands passionate about the idea of the “family farm.”

Brandy’s father, Bourbon, knows the reality of working off the farm to supple-



Photo by Lalie Dick

Brandy Graves

ment the high cost of machinery, fences rolled away by flash flood and the everyday cost of health for humans and animals.

His daughter’s advice to the present generation and the ones to follow: “Start young... don’t stop if it’s what you want to do.”

When just a little girl, Brandy joined 4-H and showed cattle at youth events. She moved on to FFA, better known as Future Farmers of America, and found that her involvement with those extracurricular activities were enough to keep her energized. Just being in competition with her twin brother, Keith, for offices in the organization was sport enough.

“I’ve had 15 head of cattle with Keith since I was 12. That’s how I bought my car. That’s how I pay my college tuition.”

Her “Pebbles” was the 1996 Grand Champion commerce heifer at the Kentucky State Fair; Brandy was 12 when she showed Pebbles.

On the Graves’ place, as on many farms in Kentucky, there have been changes. Deciding not to raise 75 acres of tobacco was one of those major transitions for the family.

“I remember when I was three or four, my dad would stick us under the stripping table,” Brandy says with a laugh. She also remembers cutting tobacco as she and her father worked as a team - she cut and he speared the tobacco on the stick. “I was too short to reach the spear, and Daddy didn’t want me to miss.”

The Graves family focuses now on beef cattle and hay production. With 600 cows and 2,500 feeder calves,

they’ve chosen to let others be shepherds for sheep and goats, handlers for hogs and row crop farmers.

The keys are a careful appraisal of values, respect for family traditions and a passion for making the land responsive to human need. “We haven’t had any outside help for years,” Brandy says.

“Take care of the land, and it’ll take care of you” is agrarian wisdom passed along by previous generations.

Brandy is a living example of this truth. She knows and appreciates the reality that farm life is not for everybody, nor should it be. City life is necessary, too.

My husband and I live on ancestral land, where we try to have the best of several worlds - beef cattle and hay, and writing about good people such as Brandy Graves.

Life for a woman on today’s Kentucky farm is not as strenuous as it once was, but there’s still plenty of work to do.

It is enriching work walking through the cow herd, swinging the feed bucket, growing with seasons of change.

It causes me to be thankful for a young woman such as Brandy, who one day will be helping her children to understand the meaning of farm and city life.

It begins with an idea, proceeds through the years and makes a life worth living.

So, the next time you read or hear about the decline, even the demise, of the “family farm,” take down a copy of this story from the refrigerator door and pass along the good news - 4-H, FFA and Kentucky Farm Bureau are alive and well.

And the Brandy Graves with their buckets of hope are feeding the nation and a world hungry for a better life.

Outstanding youth recognized by Kentucky Farm Bureau

Staff report

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Kathryn Ormsbee of Lexington and John Bell of Hodgenville were selected winners of an Outstanding Farm Bureau Youth contest at the 87th Kentucky Farm Bureau annual meeting held last month in Louisville.

The high school students won \$2,000 college scholarships, watches and trips to Washington, D.C., to participate in the 2007 Kentucky Farm Bureau Congressional Tour in February.

Runners-up were Kirby O’Donoghue of West View and Matthew Morse of Princeton. They received \$200 cash awards and digital cameras.

Congeniality awards, which were voted by their fellow contestants, were won by O’Donoghue and Christopher Nickell of Grassy Creek.

Contestants for the state title were selected from 22 district finalists out of more than 250 young people. Judging for the contests was done in personal interviews, with points were awarded for each competitor’s leadership record, conversational abil-

ity and scholastic achievement.

Other finalists who advanced to the state were:

Kelsey Watson, Murray; Venson Gill, Bardwell; Magen Roberts, Princeton; Elizabeth Chaney, Bowling Green; Tyler Burysek, Rockfield; Matthew Lodmell, Frankfort; Rebecca Redding, Frankfort; Robert Foree, Eminence; Laura Chandler, Campbellsville;

Tyler Miller, Science Hill; Katelin Frederick, Hustonville; Kyle Trowbridge, Eubank; Samantha Anderson, Winchester; Cory Cox, Winchester; Clacey Henry, Ezel;

Janice Vanourney, London; and Tyler Smith, London.

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield provided luggage for the winners, digital cameras for the runners-up and luggage pieces for all 22 contestants.

Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation gave watches to the winners and cash awards to the runners-up. The organization also funds the winners’ scholarships and Washington tour expenses, as well as \$100 awards to the congeniality winners and gives \$75 to each competitor for winning individual district titles.

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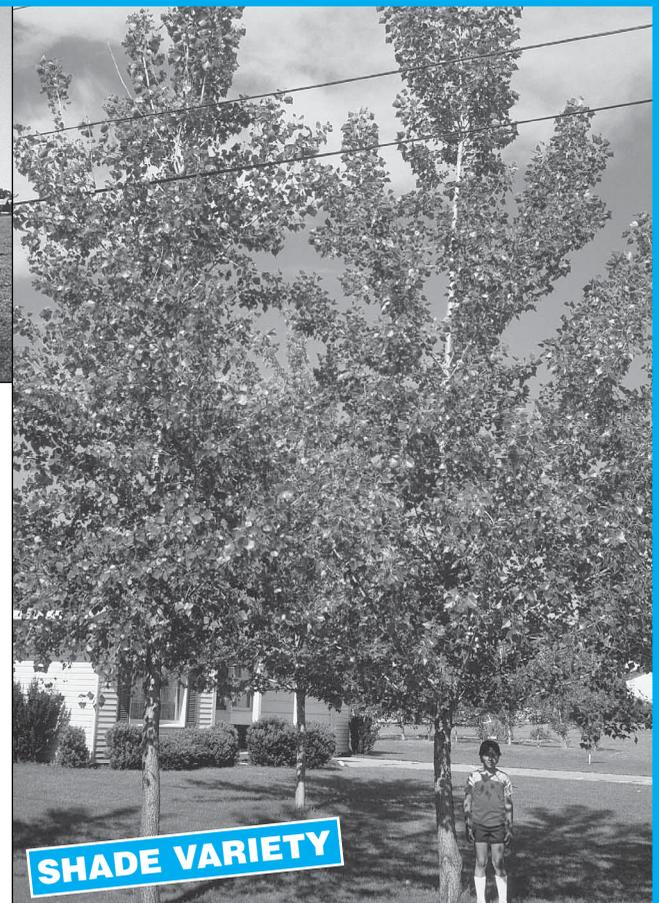
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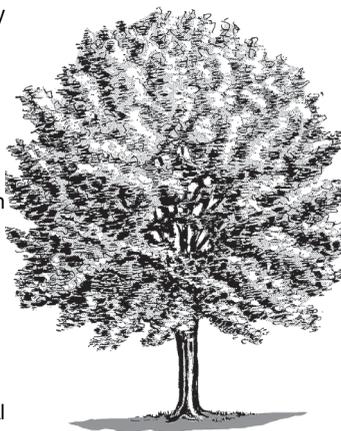
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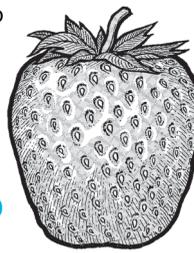
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