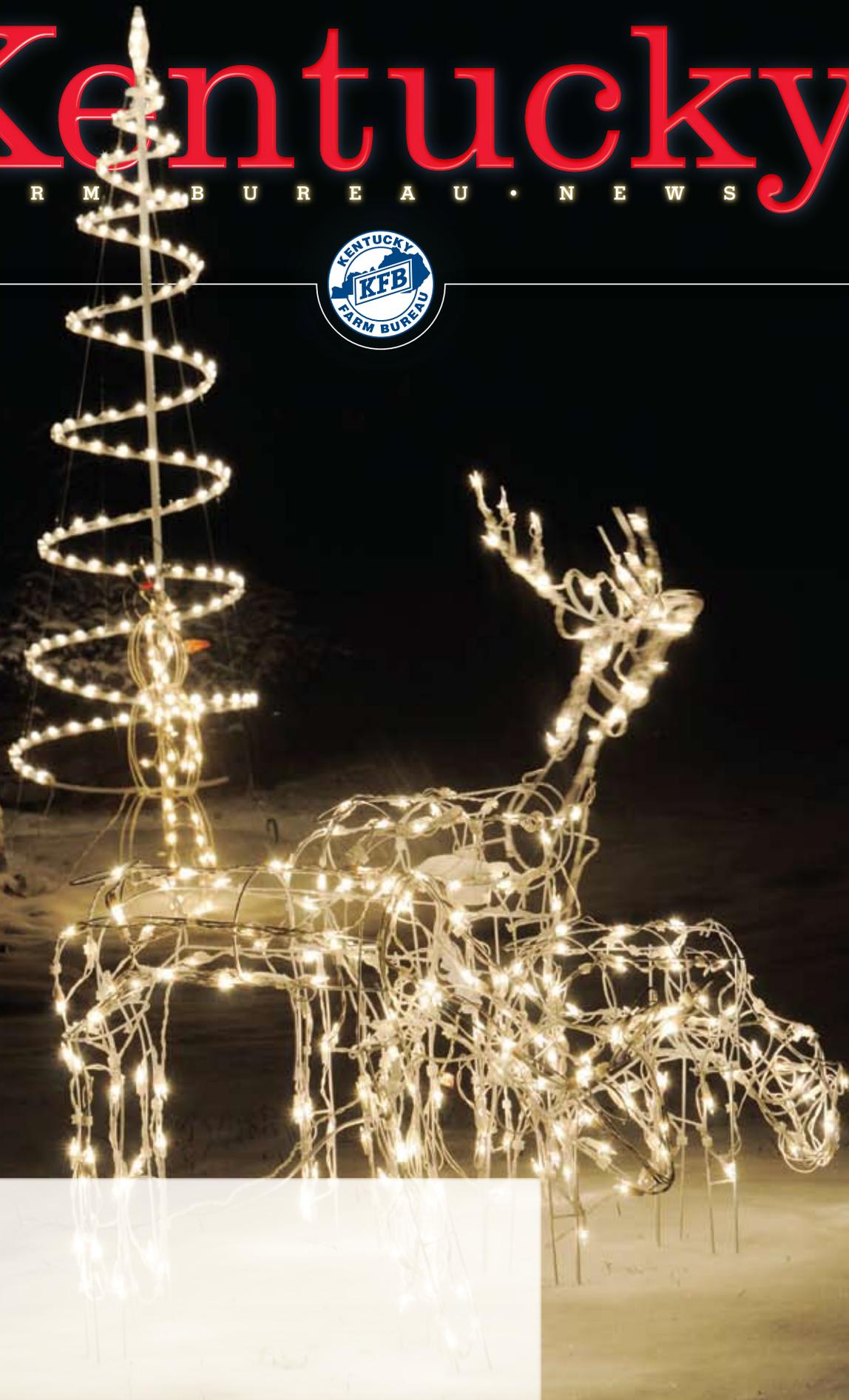


Kentucky

F A R M B U R E A U • N E W S



D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 3

Chicago Doctor Invents Affordable Hearing Aid Outperforms Many Higher Priced Hearing Aids

Reported by J. Page

CHICAGO: A local board-certified Ear, Nose, Throat (ENT) physician, Dr. S. Cherukuri, has just shaken up the hearing aid industry with the invention of a medical-grade, affordable hearing aid. **This revolutionary hearing aid is designed to help millions of people with hearing loss who cannot afford—or do not wish to pay—the much higher cost of traditional hearing aids.**

“Perhaps the best quality-to-price ratio in the hearing aid industry” – Dr. Babu, M.D. Board-Certified ENT Physician

Dr. Cherukuri knew that untreated hearing loss could lead to depression, social isolation, anxiety, and symptoms consistent with Alzheimer’s dementia. **He could not understand why the cost for hearing aids was so high when the prices on so many consumer electronics like TVs, DVD players, cell phones and digital cameras had fallen.**

Since Medicare and most private insurance do not cover the costs of hearing aids, which traditionally run between \$2,000-\$6,000 for a pair, many of the doctor’s patients could not afford the expense. Dr. Cherukuri’s goal was to find a reasonable solution that would help with the most common types of hearing loss at an affordable price, not unlike the “one-size-fits-most” reading glasses available at drug stores.

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He evaluated numerous hearing devices and sound amplifiers, including those seen on television. Without fail, almost all of these were found to amplify bass/low frequencies (below 1000 Hz) and not useful in amplifying the frequencies related to the human voice.

Inspiration From a Surprising Source

The doctor’s inspiration to defeat the powers-that-be that kept inexpensive hearing aids out of the hands of the public actually came from a new cell phone he had just purchased. “I felt that if someone could devise an affordable device like an iPhone® for about \$200 that could do all sorts of things, I could create a hearing aid at a similar price.”

Affordable Hearing Aid With Superb Performance

The high cost of hearing aids is a result of layers of middlemen and expensive unnecessary features. Dr. Cherukuri concluded that it would be possible to develop a medical grade hearing aid without sacrificing the quality of components. The result is the MDHearingAid PRO®, starting well under \$200. **It has been declared to be the best low-cost hearing aid that amplifies the range of sounds associated with the human voice without overly amplifying background noise.**

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The MDHearingAid PRO® has been rigorously tested by leading ENT physicians and audiologists who have unanimously agreed that **the sound quality and output in many cases exceeds more expensive hearing aids.**

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*“I have been wearing hearing aids for over 25 years and these are the best behind-the-ear aids I have tried. **Their sound quality rivals that of my \$3,000 custom pair of Phonak Xtra digital ITE.**” —Gerald Levy*

*“I have a \$2,000 Resound Live hearing aid in my left ear and the MDHearingAid PRO® in the right ear. **I am not able to notice a significant difference in sound quality between the two hearing aids.**” —Dr. May, ENT physician*

*“We ordered two hearing aids for my mother on Sunday, and the following Wednesday they were in our mailbox! **Unbelievable! Now for the best part—they work so great, my mother says she hasn’t heard so good for many years, even with her \$2,000 digital! It was so great to see the joy on her face. She is 90 years young again.**” —Al Peterson*

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KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS
 Volume 12 · No. 10
 DECEMBER 2013

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This issue of KFB News goes to all of our members throughout the state, featuring news from our annual meeting plus information about member services. I'm pleased to have this opportunity to inform our valued members that both Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation and Kentucky Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company have had a great year and will enter 2014 on strong footing.



Farm Bureau's primary mission is to represent farm families in the public policy arena. We feel that is an honorable duty because the ability of our agriculture industry to supply us with a bounty of safe, affordable food is one of America's greatest strengths.

Our job has been a little easier in recent years because agriculture has been one of the few bright spots of our economy. With virtually all farm commodity prices at strong levels, farm income has been on the rise. That always bodes well for the rural communities and satellite industries that benefit from a vibrant agricultural economy.

Agriculture also continues to stand as one of the few industries with a positive balance of trade.

American farmers and ranchers not only are producing for domestic consumers, but roughly a third of U.S. agriculture production goes to export markets. Agriculture certainly has stepped up to the plate to meet the increased demand for both food and energy.

In regard to public policy, agriculture has done its fair share in combating our nation's fiscal crisis. In recent years, it has accepted more than \$15 billion in federal funding cuts. Considering that farm programs make up just one-quarter of one percent of the federal budget, that cut is a much higher percentage than other industries.

In an issue of interest to many urban residents, America's farmers have embraced the local foods craze. Each season more and more of our farm commodities are travelling short distances to reach consumers. The number of on-farm markets and urban farmer's markets has soared. A good example is in metro Louisville, which has become a hotbed for promoting local foods.

I'm optimistic about the future of Kentucky's farm families and proud to be part of an organization that works on their behalf. Farm Bureau is all about service; not only to farmers, but to all of our members. Our greatest strength is our members and our county Farm Bureau organizations. Our best work, in fact, is done at the local level by dedicated members.

On behalf of the KFB family, we wish you every success for 2014!

Mark Haney

President

Kentucky Farm Bureau



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C O L U M N

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

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KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS

www.kyfb.com

Editor Roger Nesbitt
Art Director David Brown
..... Pioneer Publishing
..... Lexington, KY

Through my 13 years as UKAg dean, Kentucky agriculture faced enormous challenges. Among the most significant of these challenges were the end of the decades-old tobacco program (with major shifts in our burley markets); adjustments required of the Thoroughbred industry; continuing globalization of commodity markets and production; meeting changing public expectations about food and environment; adjusting to a changing agricultural workforce (from farm labor to the highest level of technical expertise, including a low entry rate of young farm operators); and a record-setting recession.



This is a long daunting list, but Kentucky responded with strength and, quite often, remarkable success. Our assets include Kentucky's unique Agricultural Development Fund, a strong, diverse resource base, and a sound infrastructure for most farm enterprises and agribusiness. But skilled and entrepreneurial farm and agribusiness operators, coupled with strong, supportive leadership, laid the real foundation of agricultural development. Much of that excellent leadership originated with Kentucky Farm Bureau.

Farm Bureaus and the Cooperative Extension Service grew up together in the early decades of the 20th century. At one time, county extension agents were directly assigned to build and recruit for county farm bureaus. As our two organizations have grown — Extension with the mission of education and technology transfer, Farm Bureau with the mission of advocacy and services — they have remained powerful partners sharing the goal of advancing Kentucky agriculture.

The three presidents I have served with (Sam Moore, Marshall Coyle and Mark Haney) are exceptional leaders. Yet the high impact role of Kentucky Farm Bureau, just like the continuing excellence of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, depends not only on individual leaders but also on long-term organizational stability and mission, dedicated expert staff and widespread grassroots support. Common roots, shared goals and the strong partnership of UKAg and KFB will be just as valuable, perhaps more so, into the future as they have been during my term as dean.

Scott Smith

Retiring Dean

UK College of Agriculture, Food & Environment



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Protecting rural road fund looms as a key concern

KFB concluded its 94th annual meeting on December 7 with its Board of Directors approving condensed lists of priority issues for 2014. The organization's delegates adopted policy positions at its business session the day before.

Most of KFB's chief concerns are ongoing, including maintaining funding for the state's agricultural development initiative and opposing any attempt to freeze the state real property tax rate. The ag development program utilizing tobacco settlement funds has been one of the most successful developments in the history of Kentucky's agriculture industry. State law mandates that 50 percent of the annual revenues from the tobacco settlement fund go for agriculture development.

Kentucky's rural road fund and hefty wildlife population are among the other topics that are high on KFB's list.

KFB calls for continuing the 22.2 percent allocation of state gasoline tax revenue for rural roads. This longstanding policy has come to the forefront due to discussions about changing the formula.

"Our need to transport farm commodities to the

marketplace safely and quickly has never been more vital," explained KFB President Mark Haney, who operates an orchard, roadside market and cattle farm in Pulaski County. "More and more of our products are transported short distances on rural roads to meet the demand for local foods. And a good roads system benefits all of our state. These rural road funds are more important than ever."

The huge deer population has become a nuisance to Kentucky farmers, prompting KFB to explore legislative solutions.

"We're going to take a more proactive approach during this legislative session," said Haney. "We're still developing a strategy, with the aim of getting something done to reduce the deer herd. It's a state-wide problem."

Tax policies top the list on the state legislative agenda, with emphasis on a statement expressing continued support for preserving the current property tax law which limits annual revenue from property taxes to no more than a four percent hike, plus new growth. This provision was a key part of House Bill 44 which KFB worked hard to see enacted in 1979.

KFB also wants to ensure that the state sales tax exemption for production agriculture is not impacted by any tax reform package. Additionally, it has policy to extend the exemption to production items used in the equine and poultry industries.

"The exemption is very important to the bottom lines of our farmers," said Haney. "Another aspect to consider is the potential impact on the Kentucky businesses that sell these inputs to farmers. A tax likely would prompt many farmers to make their purchases from businesses in surrounding states."

Tobacco taxes are on the radar, with opposition to any increases or regulatory requirements that would put Kentucky at a disadvantage with surrounding states.

Other fiscal priorities include continued funding of the Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost-Share Program and new facilities for the Breathitt Veterinary Center in Hopkinsville.

Among the national issues is a farm bill plus reforms to the H-2A farm worker program to make it more reliable, economical and accessible. KFB policy also expresses concern about the nation's budget deficit and overextending regulatory environment.

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 11, 2014, 10:00 a.m. (Eastern), 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, and (3) to consider any other business that may come before said meeting.

 Secretary

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 11, 2014, 1:00 p.m. (Eastern), 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

Top officers are re-elected

Pulaski County farmer Mark Haney was re-elected president of KFB on the concluding day of the organization's 94th annual meeting. Also re-elected were Webster County's Eddie Melton as First Vice-President and Hart County's Fritz Giesecke as Second Vice-President. They comprise KFB's Executive Committee along with Executive Vice President David S. Beck.

Haney has served on the Executive Committee for 15 years and has been a state director since 1993. For years he chaired the State Resolutions Committee. He is a past president and current board member of the Kentucky Center for Agriculture & Rural Development, past president of the Kentucky Center for Cooperative Development and past chairman of the Kentucky Horticulture Council. Also a former president of the Pulaski County Farm Bureau, Haney and his brother, Don, produce apples and peaches and also raise beef cattle. They sell fresh produce from their orchards – as well as cider, jellies, baked goods and other products – at a KFB Certified Roadside Market located on the farm in Nancy. He and his wife, Marlene, have two sons and a daughter.

Melton, a former president of Webster County Farm Bureau, is chairman of KFB's State Resolutions Committee and Health Care Task Force. He also was chairman of KFB's Farm Bill Task Force, which conducted statewide forums and sought input from Kentucky farmers on provisions of the 2008 farm bill. Melton additionally serves as chairman of the board for the Southern States Cooperative. He and his wife, Regina, have a daughter.

Giesecke serves as the chair of KFB's Beef Cattle Advisory Committee and is a member of KFB's Farm Labor Advisory Committee and Health Care Task Force. He also serves on the executive committee of the U.S. Meat Export Federation. Giesecke has been an active member of the Hart County Farm Bureau for over 30 years where he has held a variety of leadership positions, including county president. He additionally served 25 years as county supervisor for the local soil conservation district. Giesecke and his wife, Lydia, have a daughter and a son, and farms in Hart County.

Three new members were elected to the board: Dr. Nancy Cox, the new dean of the University of Kentucky's College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, assumes the board position previously held by Dr. Scott Smith; Matt Gajdzik of Shelby County replaces Jason McGlone of Carter County as the new chair of the Young Farmer



KFB President Mark Haney and Public Affairs Director Jeff Harper presented a Louisville Slugger bat to Senate Majority Leader Damon Thayer (middle) during the legislative breakfast. Senator Thayer, who is a KFB member, was the keynote speaker.

Advisory Committee; and Betty Farris of Butler County replaces Phyllis Amyx of Wolfe County as the new chair of the Women's Advisory Committee.

A complete list of the Board of Directors is on Page 5.

The Young Farmer Committee is comprised of both singles and married couples. Those members for 2014, including the officers, are: Jay and Trisha Campbell of Logan County; Matt and Stacy Collier of Greenup County; Brent and Rhonda Cornett of Clay County; Matt and Amanda Gajdzik of Shelby County; Colby and Sarah Beth Guffey of Clinton County; Michael and Laura Highbaugh of Hardin County; Alan Hubble of Lincoln County; Scott and Shea Lowe of Calloway County; James and Julie Lyons of Scott County; Kent and Danya Moore of Daviess County; Damian Smithers of Bracken County; and ex-officio members Greg and Contessa Harris of Madison County.

The Women's Advisory Committee is comprised of Phyllis Amyx of Wolfe County; Vickie Bryant of Monroe County; Mary Jayne Cannon of Fleming County; Pam Chappell of Owen County; Betty Farris of Butler County; Sharon Furches of Calloway County; Terry Gilbert of Boyle County; Margaret Hensley of Clay County; Sue Litkenhus of Anderson County; Cathy Pleasants of Lincoln County; Carol Sullivan of Taylor County; Bettie Wallace of Caldwell County.

Butler County FB is tops



Butler County Farm Bureau members posed with the “top county” trophy at their Christmas dinner. Front row from left: Mattie Wells, Chelsea Daugherty, Lydia Wells, Harper Farris and Alex Daugherty. Second row from left: Danny Farris, Sabrina Farris, Cash Farris, Felicia Wells, Betty Farris, Lee Ann Daugherty, Debi Phelps, Dee Russ and Gregory Drake II. Third row from left: Tina Cohron, Rita Drake, Pam Rose, Helen Moore, Shane Wells, Wendy Givens, Van Daugherty, Sherry Clark and Ryan Pendley. Back row from left: Bobby Smith, Craig Cohron, James Runyon, Greg Drake, Johnny Rose IV, Sam Moore, Randall Farris, Dwayne McKinney, LaBrisha McKinney, Russell Givens, Patrick Daugherty, Jack Clark, Jared Rose and Darren Rice.

Butler County Farm Bureau was selected as “top county” for 2013 in a program to measure the overall effectiveness of the county organizations. The “Top County” announcement headlined more than 90 membership program and insurance honors presented during an awards breakfast. Butler County, which has 2,120 members and a variety of successful service programs, was also honored as the Top County in the membership category for counties with 2,600 or fewer members. Marion County (3,519 members) received recognition among the counties with 2,601 to 4,200 members, and Madison County (6,873 members) won top honors among counties with more than 4,200 members.

● **Outstanding County Farm Bureaus** were designated in 10 of 11 districts. The recipients were: Butler, Campbell, Carter, Madison, Marion, McCracken, Letcher, Warren, Wayne and Webster Counties.

● McCreary, Ohio and Warren Counties received **Top Growth Awards** for having the largest percentage of membership gain from 2012.

● **Pacesetter Awards** were given to counties in the three membership size classifications that were the first to achieve a membership gain during the year. The large county award went to Warren County, followed in size by Ohio and McCreary Counties.

● 10 counties won honors for having the highest **member retention** totals in their districts. Those winners were: Henry, Jessamine, Marion, McCracken, Ohio, Owsley, Warren, Wayne, Webster and Wolfe Counties.

● Wayne County was honored for having **50 consecutive years of membership growth**.

● Letcher County was recognized as the Most Improved County Farm Bureau.

● Three awards were given for most effective county **Farm Bureau information programs**. Mercer County won first place, Logan County was second and Daviess County was third.

● Six counties won awards for **policy growth and profitability** produced by their local Farm Bureau insurance agencies. These counties – Estill, Henry, Knott, Nicholas, Spencer and Todd – came closest to the growth goal set for that county.

Outstanding youth are selected

Justin Hobbs of Breckinridge County and Erica Rogers of Calloway County were awarded top honors in the Outstanding Farm Bureau Youth contest, sponsored in part by AT&T.

Hobbs and Rogers were selected from 22 district finalists out of approximately 400 young people who competed in county and district contests over the past several months. Judges met with finalists for personal interviews during the annual meeting, awarding points for each contestant's leadership record, conversational ability and scholastic achievement. KFB gave the winners a \$2,000 college scholarship, an expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., on the KFB Congressional Tour, a luggage set and watch for winning the contest.

Runners-up in the contest were Cody Burke of Fleming County and Lilly Robertson of Logan County. They each received a \$200 cash award and digital camera from KFB. Congeniality awards, which were voted on by their fellow contestants, were won by Hobbs and Sara Chism of Meade County. KFB awarded both of them with \$100 cash prizes for the honor.

The 22 district finalists who performed at KFB's annual meeting included: Jacob Barnett, Spencer County; Sidney Boots, Campbell County; Caleb Brannon, Calloway County; Darilyn Browning, Spencer County; Cody Burke, Fleming County; Sara Chism, Meade County; Gared Dalton, Russell County; Justin Hobbs, Breckinridge County; Julia Little, Boyle County; Ryvers Loomis, Laurel County; Michaela Mineer, Fleming County; Jessica Murch, Henderson County; Monica Poindexter, Cumberland County; Thomas Poole, Logan County; Isaac Renner, Lincoln County; Lilly Robertson, Logan County; Miranda Robinson, Greenup County; Erica Rogers, Calloway County; Jacob Sifers, Pike County; Luke Trapp, Campbell County; Cable Wilson, McLean County; and Teddy Woods II, Clay County.

All 22 contestants received luggage pieces and \$100 for winning district competitions.



Erica Rogers and Justin Hobbs.

Janella Miller wins Discussion Meet



Janella Miller accepted the award from KFB's Stacy Lowe and David S. Beck.

Janella Miller of Pulaski County won first place in the final round of the Discussion Meet, a debate-styled competition for young farmers that relies on an individual's skill in reasoning and logical discussion of issues.

Miller bested nine other entrants in the event, winning a Kawasaki MULE donated by Southern Farm Bureau Life

Insurance Company and Jacobi Sales. She also won a trip to the national finals as part of the 95th American Farm Bureau Federation annual convention. Winners of the national contest will have their choice of either a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado or a 2014 GMC Sierra, courtesy of GM and a paid registration to the 2014 AFBF Young Farmer & Rancher Leadership Conference. Three national runners-up will receive a Case IH Farmall 55A, courtesy of Case IH, a \$2,500 cash prize and a STIHL Farm Boss chainsaw, courtesy of STIHL.

Runner-up in the state meet was Mary Courtney of Shelby County, who received \$1,000 cash from KFB.

The two other finalists in the state-level contest were Cameron Edwards of Webster County and Casey Story of Fleming County. They each received \$200 cash awards from KFB.

KFB's 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 topic debated by the four finalists was: "How can Young Farmers & Ranchers work with elected and appointed officials to eliminate unnecessary or excessive regulations placed upon agriculture while ensuring that new regulations are justified based on their costs and anticipated benefits?"

Shelby County couple

Shane and Mary Courtney

received the prestigious award at the young farmer luncheon. On the front row from left are Bengie Goff of Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, KFB President Mark Haney, KFB Executive VP David S. Beck and Steve Trager, President of Republic Bank. Back row from left are Eric Sweazy of Premier Crop Insurance, Larry Jagers from Crop Insurance Services, Brett Reese of Southern States Cooperative, John Sparrow, COO of KFB Insurance and Mark Baumer of Case IH.



Shane and Mary Courtney of Shelby County were honored as “Outstanding Young Farm Family.” Each year KFB awards this distinction to a couple under age 35 who has exhibited the strongest farm management skills, most consistent financial growth and highest level of involvement in both Farm Bureau and the community.

In addition to receiving statewide recognition as the newest “Outstanding Young Farm Family,” the Courtneys won a Case IH Scout courtesy of KFB Insurance and Case IH, an Apple iPad from Republic Bank & Trust, \$1,000 cash from Premier Crop Insurance, a \$750 Dyna-Gro seed voucher from Crop Production Services, a \$500 voucher from Southern States Cooperative, and a voucher for 12 bags of seed corn from Pioneer Seed. They also received an expense-paid trip to compete in the American Farm Bureau Federation’s national young farmer contest next month.

Winners of the AFBF national contest will take home their choice of either a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado or a 2014 GMC Sierra, courtesy of GM, and a paid registration to the 2014 Young Farmer & Rancher Leadership Conference. Three national runners-up will receive a Case IH Farmall 65A, courtesy of Case IH, a \$2,500 cash prize and a STIHL Farm Boss chainsaw, courtesy of STIHL.

The “Outstanding Young Farm Family” second place distinction went to Dustin and Tammy White

of Union County, and third place winners were Jonathan and Jessica Gaskins of Adair County.

Shane & Mary Courtney

Shane and Mary Courtney began farming as a family in 2006 after purchasing their first 45 acres of land in Shelby County. With no pre-existing infrastructure on the farm but a strong desire to live on the land, they constructed a barn with live-in quarters to launch their dream. Today, through a variety of wise financial partnerships and well-timed land and equipment acquisitions, the Courtneys now farm a total of 569.5 acres to raise burley tobacco, corn, soybeans, mixed vegetables, green bell peppers, eggplant, cucumbers, squash and zucchini, specialty peppers, and seedless watermelon.

Before Shane began his venture into farming, he was a full-time schoolteacher who started mowing lawns part-time. This business venture led him through a series of experiences that helped him confidently take the leap into farming. Learning how to operate his own business, direct employees, manage finances, deal with the uncertainty of weather and earn extra income for his family served as the perfect springboard to start a farm of his own.

From their modest beginnings, the Courtney’s have spent the last seven years rapidly and assertively pursuing ways to expand their operation. They added another barn with a bunkhouse to meet the

Win OYFF award

demands of the farm's growth and labor requirements. When they decided to begin growing vegetables, they constructed a greenhouse for transplants. They added a second greenhouse just a year later to assist with their tobacco transplants, and constructed a two-acre pond in anticipation of needing irrigate their crops.

The Courtneys have remained active in the pursuit of adjacent land acquisitions as well, and with those purchases came the addition of an equipment storage barn and several equipment sheds, outdoor tobacco structures, a tobacco barn, a dairy parlor that will soon be converted into an office, and a home to be remodeled. The acquisition of land, buildings and equipment to grow larger quantities of labor-intensive crops also led to the Courtneys to hire help and expand their workforce.

Beyond the growth of their farm, transparency and connecting families with food and agriculture is also a personal mission of the Courtneys. This included three years selling vegetables, eggs and meat through a Community Supported Agriculture program, hosting a "Touch the Dirt Day" on their farm each fall, and interacting with the non-farm public year-round through the family's blog site.

Volunteering their time to many other causes outside of their own farm, Shane and Mary have both served on Shelby County Farm Bureau's board of directors for the past several years. In addition to serving in a wide variety of capacities on the county Farm Bureau level, they are also often engaged in many KFB Young Farmer events.

Dustin & Tammy White

Dustin and Tammy White own and operate part of a 14,118-acre, multi-generational family farm in Union County. The White family raises beef cattle, hay, straw, wheat, white and yellow corn, soybeans and seed beans. Dustin is also a Union County Farm Bureau board member and chair of the county's Young Farmer Committee. Both Dustin and Tammy volunteer their spare time to organizations promoting agriculture and civic leadership.

The Whites' second-place finish earned them 250 hours free use of a Kubota tractor, an Apple iPad from Republic Bank & Trust, \$750 cash from Premier Crop



Dustin and Tammy White

were recognized for runner-up. Front row from left are Bengie Goff of Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, KFB President Mark Haney, KFB Executive VP David S. Beck and Republic Bank President Steve Trager. Back row from left are Eric Sweazy of Premier Crop Insurance, Larry Jaggars of Crop Production Services, Brett Reese of Southern States Cooperative and Don Barker of Kubota.

Insurance, a \$500 Dyna-Gro seed voucher from Crop Production Services, a \$300 voucher from Southern States Cooperative, and a voucher for 8 bags of seed corn from Pioneer Seed.

Jonathan & Jessica Gaskins

Jonathan and Jessica Gaskins are both first generation dairy farmers in Adair County who also grow corn silage, alfalfa hay, grass hay, soybeans and corn. Jonathan and Jessica are both active members of the Adair County Farm Bureau Young Farmer program, serve as Ag Advisory Council Members for the county's Cooperative Extension Service, and participate in several other local industry and civic groups.

For their third-place finish, the Gaskins won 100 hours free use of a New Holland tractor, an Apple iPad from Republic Bank & Trust, \$500 cash from Premier Crop Insurance, a \$250 Dyna-Gro seed voucher from Crop Production Services, a \$200 voucher from Southern States Cooperative, and a voucher for 6 bags of seed corn from Pioneer Seed.



Jonathan and Jessica Gaskins

are pictured with (front row from left) Bengie Goff of Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, KFB President Mark Haney, KFB Executive VP David S. Beck and Republic Bank President Steve Trager. Back row from left are Eric Sweazy of Premium Crop Insurance, Larry Jaggars of Crop Production Services, Brett Reese of Southern States Cooperative and Andy Reinert of New Holland.

Mercer County Extension Agent honored for “excellence in ag”

Three “Excellence in Agriculture Awards” were presented at the Young Farmer Luncheon. Linda McClanahan of Mercer County won top honors and will represent Kentucky in national competition at the AFBF annual convention. McClanahan was presented with a John Deere Gator, courtesy of Farm Credit Services of Mid-America, and an expense-paid trip to the AFBF annual meeting.

McClanahan is the Mercer County extension agent for agriculture and natural resources. She also produces a daily radio program on WHBN, writes an article each week for The Harrodsburg Herald, creates industry-focused newsletters for her farming

community audience, and offers her expertise as a guest columnist in the Mercer County Cattlemen’s Association newsletter.

Second place in the contest went to Aaron and Melissa Miller of Hardin County. They were awarded \$400 courtesy of KFB. Clint Hardy of Daviess County placed third and received \$300 from KFB.

When McClanahan competes nationally, she will be vying for either a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado or 2014 GMC Sierra, courtesy of GM and a paid registration to the 2014 AFBF Young Farmer & Rancher Leadership Conference. Three national runners-up will receive a Case IH Farmall 45A, courtesy of Case IH, a \$2,500 cash prize and a STIHL Farm Boss chainsaw, courtesy of STIHL.

Hardin County teacher wins ag literacy award

Leslie Meredith, a seventh grade teacher at West Hardin Middle School in Hardin County, is the recipient of the 2013 Excellence in Ag Literacy Award. The award recognizes and rewards teachers who excel in their efforts to incorporate agricultural concepts throughout their core curriculum. Nominations were made for a variety of pre-kindergarten through 12th grade teachers who use their classrooms to help students comprehend the value of agriculture as it impacts their personal well-being economically, environmentally and socially.

For winning the award, Meredith received \$500 cash and an expense-paid trip to the National Ag in the Classroom Conference, where she will represent Kentucky in the national competition.

Identified in her letters of recommendation as “the epitome of an effective teacher,” Meredith mixes traditional classroom instruction with her own real-life experiences from growing up on a farm. She incorporates environmental and agricultural issues into lesson plans throughout the year so that students develop a deeper understanding of how their



Leslie Meredith receives award from Bill Johnson, President of Farm Credit Mid-America



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Ray Allan Mackey named “Farmer of the Year”

Ray Allan Mackey, a 27-year farming veteran in Hardin County, was honored as the 2013 KFB “Farmer of the Year.” The other finalists were Gary Cecil of Daviess County and Kenny Imel of Greenup County.

Mackey currently raises corn, soybeans, tobacco, beef cattle and swine on his 4,535-acre farm in Hardin County. He began farming immediately after graduating from college, first helping his father manage the family farm, then sharecropping some neighboring land, and eventually purchasing his own farm in 1986. As the size of Mackey’s farmland and facilities continued to grow with more acquisitions over the following years, so did his family’s involvement on the farm. Mackey’s wife, both of his sons, and his brother all play integral roles on the farm.

Mackey is currently in the process of upgrading his farm’s grain handling and storage facilities, installing a more efficient dryer and grain transfer equipment. He is also developing new ways to provide adequate drainage for crop production, expanding his farm’s existing tile system, maintaining its stream banks and leveling field areas damaged by flooding.

In an effort to prevent soil erosion and preserve the quality of the water, land and resources around him, Mackey implements several agricultural conservation practices on his farm. Practicing no-till or minimum-till farming methods, crop rotation, utilizing grass and rock cover to prevent erosion in critical areas, and planting cover crop wheat on harvested tobacco fields has helped make

choices impact the environment. While her agricultural instruction and influence is certainly great within her own classroom, Meredith’s efforts also reach beyond those four walls. She regularly leads large scale projects that require students to think and research beyond their textbooks, and she recently managed a school-wide Farm-to-School unit that yielded nearly one hundred percent faculty and student participation.

“Living in a country that is rich in farmland and teaching in a rural school, I take every opportunity to tie in the agrarian aspects to the students’ lives,” Meredith said in her application for the award. “I hope by teaching across the curriculum I am fostering the love of the environment and the importance of agriculture in students’ daily lives.”

Meredith has taught seventh grade science and social studies at West Hardin Middle School since 2002, becoming the science department chair in 2010 and the seventh grade team leader in 2011. She earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Kentucky, her master’s degree from Bellarmine University and her counseling certificate from Western Kentucky University.



Ray Allan and Jan Mackey received the award from KFB President Mark Haney (left) and Executive VP David S. Beck.

Mackey a conscientious steward of the land he farms.

Mackey is well known for the active roles he has taken in both KFB and the Kentucky Corn Growers Association (KyCGA). He has been a member of the Hardin County Farm Bureau board of directors since 1985 and served as its president since 2004. He is also vice chair of the KFB Swine Advisory Committee and the KFB District Three chairman. Currently serving as president of the KyCGA, Mackey has been a member of the organization’s board of directors since 2003 and additionally acted as its treasurer, secretary and vice-president during that tenure. He is also a member of the National Corn Growers Association’s Research and Business Development Team and a graduate of its Leadership Academy.

Judges visited the “Farmer of the Year” finalists during the fall to conduct interviews and see each operation firsthand. The KFB Federation awarded Mackey with a \$1,000 prize for being named “Farmer of the Year,” and the other finalists, Cecil and Imel, received \$250 each. All three finalists were also presented with a KFB jacket.

In addition to the statewide recognition and prizes, KFB’s “Farmer of the Year” winner will represent Kentucky in the Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Ag Expo Southeastern “Farmer of the Year” contest, the South’s most prestigious agricultural award, in Moultrie, Georgia, October 14-16, 2014. The state winner will also receive \$2,500 from Swisher International, a \$500 gift certificate from Southern States Cooperative, the choice of either \$1,000 in PhytoGen cottonseed or a \$500 donation to a designated charity from Dow AgroSciences, and a Columbia vest from Ivey’s Outdoor and Farm Supply. Kentucky’s winner will compete against nine other state winners for the chance to win a \$15,000 award from Swisher International and several other sponsor-based prizes.

Tom McKee honored for Service to Agriculture



Tom and Sue McKee received the award from KFB President Mark Haney (right) and Executive VP David S. Beck

House Agriculture Committee Chairman Tom McKee received the award for Distinguished Service to Agriculture.

McKee, 72, has operated a family farm in Harrison County for 50 years, producing tobacco, cattle and grain. The McKee farmland dates back to 1836 and was expanded by Tom's grandfather and father. Tom and his wife, Sue, took over the operation in 1963 and currently farm more than 1,000 acres.

McKee was nominated and selected for the prestigious award because of a long-time high level of accomplished service to the state's agriculture industry. He has done so within Farm Bureau circles, with other farm groups and as an elected official at the county and state levels.

"Tom has always been dedicated to agriculture," said Harrison County Farm Bureau President Jennifer Yazell. "He's been there whenever our farmers needed his help. We are very fortunate to have him represent us in the legislature."

After serving 19 years as a Harrison County Magistrate, McKee was elected to the General

Assembly in 1996 to represent the 78th legislative district. He rose to become chairman of the House Agriculture Committee and has championed many causes on behalf of agriculture, most notably as one of the leading backers of legislation that created Kentucky's historic agricultural development initiative utilizing tobacco settlement funds. That bill has turned out to be a landmark in reshaping the state's agricultural economy in response to tobacco's decline.

All told, McKee has sponsored more than 40 bills that became law, according to the Legislative Research Commission.

McKee returned to his farm roots after graduating from Centre College. He has been active with Harrison County Farm Bureau since his teenage years and served three terms as president, along with many on the board of directors. At the state level he chaired the young farmer committee.

His service to agriculture also extends to leadership roles with the cattlemen's association, conservation organizations and extension. Additionally, he's been a strong supporter of FFA, 4-H and the county fairs system that promotes agriculture and youth development.

Harrison County Extension Agent Gary Carter has known McKee for more than 30 years and says "I'm ecstatic about this because you couldn't have made a better choice."

"He's done a lot for agriculture," Carter added. "He's one of those people who keeps an open mind and looks at everything closely. He never brings up the politics; he's just looking to do what's best. He's a very even keel type of person. And he has good farming practices. I'd describe him as a real gentleman and an excellent farmer."

McKee also is a community leader. He's been a deacon, trustee and elder at the Cynthiana Presbyterian Church and was a longtime director of Harrison Memorial Hospital.

Most recently he was elected Vice-Chairman of the Agriculture Committee of the Southern Legislative Conference which represents 15 southern states.

Joe Raley receives service to KFB award

Bullitt County farmer Joe Raley received the award for Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau.

Raley, 92, has been farming on a small scale for 68 years and has been active with Bullitt County Farm Bureau for 62 years. He served as the county president for 28 years and was vice president for another three years. He's been a delegate to Kentucky Farm Bureau's annual meeting for 54 consecutive years. During the same period he has represented Bullitt County Farm Bureau at KFB's district level, including 10 years as president.

Since Raley joined Bullitt County FB as a young farmer, the membership has grown from 401 to around 6,000. As president in 1980, he was instrumental in the purchase of the current office building in Shepherdsville. He also played a role in the building's renovation in 1997 and currently serves on a planning committee for a new building.

Raley had a successful carpentry business while also producing tobacco, cattle, corn and hay on a small farm. He and wife Peggy raised eight children and six remain in the county. The Raleys have 17 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

George Henderman, a veteran colleague on the Bullitt County FB Board of Directors, described Raley as "a very reliable person who is dedicated to everything he does."

"When Joe tells you something you can take it to the bank," added Henderman, who is a close friend. "I've known him for nearly 30 years and respect him to the highest level. He represents everything that's great about Farm Bureau."

Friends say Raley is known for a strong commitment to the county's farm families. He has been very active in the public policy arena, serving as chairman of the county's resolutions committee. Politically, he's an unofficial liaison between the organization and elected officials.

Throughout his career Raley has been service-oriented; devoted to church, community and agricultural groups. He served as a supervisor for the Bullitt County Conservation District for 36 years. He has been active with Kentucky FFA, Veterans of



Joe and Peggy Raley received the award from KFB President Mark Haney (right) and Executive VP David S. Beck.

Foreign Wars, Knights of Columbus and St. Aloysius Catholic Church. He's also on the county's agricultural development council, the group that decides how the county will utilize tobacco settlement funds earmarked for agriculture.

Raley's tie to VFW stems from his military service during World War II. He is a veteran of the D-Day Landing in 1944 at Utah Beach.

Raley's service to the county Farm Bureau also has involved promoting member services and agricultural education. He has championed the county's college scholarship program. He continues to work toward expanding services to Bullitt County Farm Bureau members.

"He's one of the pillars of our community," said Bullitt County Extension Agent Darold Akridge. "He has very high values relating to his faith, his family, his community, Farm Bureau and agriculture. Within Farm Bureau, he stays informed about what's going on."

More Annual Meeting Scenes



The 2014 women's committee posed for a shot with former member Freida Heath (top left) and program coordinator Scott Christmas. From from left are Mary Jane Cannon, Betty Farris, Carol Sullivan and Vickie Bryant. Back row from left are Freida Heath, Sue Litkenhus, Bettie Wallace, Phyllis Amyx, Sharon Furches, Terry Gilbert, Margaret Hensley and Pam Chappell. Committee member Cathy Pleasants was unable to attend.



The variety show participants.



Senator Mitch McConnell spoke at the concluding general session.



Executive Committee tour

At Greenup County FB, the group looked at the mobile agriculture classroom that includes "Greenup Gertie," a fiberglass milkable cow. From left are Steve Howland, insurance agent Tyler Cain, Agency Support and Marketing VP Chuck Osborne, agent Clark Quillin, Brent Wilson, KFB Insurance COO John Sparrow, KFB Second VP Fritz Giesecke, KFB First VP Eddie Melton, Greenup County FB Secretary Lisa Osborne, KFB President Mark Haney, KFB Executive VP David S. Beck and Senior Area Program Director Lynn Parsons. On the second row from left are Greenup County FB Vice-President Kenneth Imel, Area Program Director George Hienemann and KFB Insurance CEO Brad Smith.



First stop on the tour was Chop Shop, a new custom and commercial meat processing facility in Wolfe County. Here, assistant manager Paul Marsillett chats with KFB Executive Committee members Fritz Giesecke, Mark Haney and Eddie Melton.

KFB's Executive Committee last month took a three-day tour of agriculture facilities and county Farm Bureau offices in eastern and central Kentucky, with stops in Wolfe, Breathitt, Perry, Knott, Morgan, Rowan, Carter, Greenup, Montgomery, Powell and Scott counties. Along the way, KFB President Mark Haney delivered an optimistic message about the standing of both Kentucky agriculture and KFB Insurance.

Joining him in meeting with local leaders and agency staff were First Vice President Eddie Melton, Second Vice President Fritz Giesecke and Executive Vice President David S. Beck, as well as three top executives from KFB Insurance: CEO Brad Smith, COO John Sparrow and Chuck Osborne, Vice President for Agency Support and Marketing.

Noting the strength of the state's farm economy plus a good year for the insurance company, Haney said "this is a year to be thankful."

Smith told the county leaders that KFB is the only state Farm Bureau whose insurance is the state leader in market share.

The agriculture stops included a new meat processing facility in Wolfe County and the highly acclaimed D&D cattle ranch at a reclaimed strip mine site in Perry County. The group also looked at Greenup County Farm Bureau's mobile agriculture classroom.

Farm Credit Mid-America wins Agribusiness award



Farm Credit Mid-America President Bill Johnson (middle) received the award from Gary Huddleston (left) of the Agribusiness Industry Network and Steve Lockett, Vice President of Greater Louisville, Inc. Huddleston is retired from KFB, where he served as Communications Director.

Louisville-based Farm Credit Mid-America won the 21st annual Agribusiness of the Year award sponsored by the Agribusiness Industry Network. The award honors a Louisville-area agribusiness which excels in financial growth and stability, employee relations and contributions to the agricultural economy.

Farm Credit Mid-America operates in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee, serving more than 97,000 farmers, agribusinesses and rural residents. It provides loans for farm and rural living purposes, including real estate, operation, equipment and housing. The bank also offers related services such as vehicle, equipment and building leases.

The regional co-op is part of the nationwide Farm Credit System, estab-

lished in 1916 to provide a reliable source of credit for the nation's farmers and ranchers.

Farm Credit Mid-America has received high marks as an employer. This year it was recognized as one of the state's top 10 best places to work in the large company category by the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. Employees are offered numerous training and self-improvement programs to upgrade efficiency, enhance customer service and prepare for advancement.

This year, the regional bank will contribute more than \$2 million in sponsorships to youth organizations, young farmer alliances and agricultural groups. It also supported urban farm-to-table food programs, Habitat for Humanity building projects and mobile science

centers staffed by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

FFA and 4-H have also benefited from Farm Credit's support of such activities as championship livestock auctions at the Kentucky State Fair and market shows and related exhibits at the National Farm Machinery Show and the North American International Livestock Expo.

Farm Credit Mid-America has exhibited substantial growth in recent years, even as other sectors of the economy have struggled. The co-op has a business presence in all counties in its four-state territory, and this year has opened four new offices and boosted hiring to accommodate its expanding customer base.

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Stuart Laboratories originally developed Stuart's Pain Formula for race horses. Over the years, it has gained a following for treating other animals and humans. The cream contains extract of the herbs comfrey and arnica in a liposome base that penetrates the skin rapidly, says Gary Stuart, who founded the company in 1982. "People now use the product to relieve joint and muscle pain associated with arthritis and injuries," Stuart says.

Rose Johnson of Hazleton, Iowa, uses Stuart's Pain Formula to relieve the tissue pain caused by fibromyalgia, a disorder characterized by widespread pain and tenderness in joints, muscles, tendons, and other soft tissues. In addition to pain relief from Stuart's Pain Formula, she appreciates that the product causes no side effects.

Joel Sloan of Mabel was familiar with Stuart's Pain Formula because he used it regularly for treating dairy cows with mastitis. "It really helped the cows because it causes a heat action and gets the blood flowing in the udder," he says.

When Sloan was recovering from hernia surgery several years ago, his bowel and urinary function slowed down. "I rubbed some on my abdomen and in 20 min., I could feel the product working and my bowel and urinary function were restored. The pain was gone."

Mike Marsden uses Stuart's Pain Formula whenever his knee pain flares up.

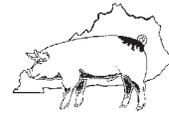
Warren Ward of Pemberton, Minn., says his knees ached so terrible at night that he couldn't get to sleep without taking painkillers. "An orthopedic surgeon told me both my knees were shot, I had bone rubbing on bone, and I needed knee-replacement surgery. Then someone told me about Stuart's Pain Formula. I started using it and in three days I had no pain in my knees, I went right to sleep at night, and I haven't taken a pain killer since."

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Nancy Cox is new dean of UK Ag

Nancy Cox has been selected as the new dean of the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. She replaces Scott Smith, who has led the college since 2001. He plans to return to the faculty, where he has been a member of 35 years.

Cox has been associate dean of research in the college, a position she has held since 2001 when she came to UK from Mississippi State University. She is widely regarded as a leader in the field, serving on several national policy boards and organizations and has close ties to both civic and agricultural leaders throughout the Commonwealth, which enthusiastically supported her candidacy for dean.

Among many duties, Cox oversees the college's research portfolio, which includes \$25 million in external awards in Fiscal Year 2012. She has represented the college on most Kentucky agricultural commodity boards, was the founding administrator of UK's growing Ag Equine Programs, and has been the key administrator in innovative alliances with private industry such as Alltech.

On the national level, she serves or has served on key federal policy boards such as the American Society of Animal Science and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Advisory Board for Research.

"I am very honored to represent, serve and support the UK Ag community, including its outstanding students, faculty, staff and an extension system known throughout the Commonwealth for its commitment to service," Cox said. "During interviews for this position, I was impressed once again by the pivotal role the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and its stakeholders play in the economy of the Commonwealth. I look forward to building on that legacy of engagement."

Department of Entomology Chair John J. Obyrcki, who co-chaired the search committee that helped select Cox, said, "Dr. Nancy Cox impressed the members of the search committee with her breadth of knowledge, administrative experience, and understanding of the land-grant mission of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment at the University of Kentucky. She stressed the need for a shared vision of the future of the newly renamed college and how we will address the diverse needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky."

KFB President Mark Haney served on the committee.

Cox begins her tenure as dean on January 1.

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"Hometown Heroes" becomes national brand

A Kentucky initiative to identify farm products produced by veterans will become a national brand. The Farmer Veteran Coalition will administer the Homegrown by Heroes program on the national level. The Farm Credit System announced a \$250,000 commitment to fund the national program.

"From the day we started Homegrown by Heroes, it was my intention to take it national so it can benefit veterans from every state," Agriculture Commissioner James Comer said at a Louisville news conference to announce the development. "I am pleased to announce that intention is becoming a reality with the help of our generous partners. This is something we in agriculture can do to show our respect and appreciation for our military veteran farmers across the United States."

The Farmer Veteran Coalition, based in Davis, California, helps veterans develop careers in agriculture through collaborations of the agricultural and military communities.

"The veterans we work with have served their country twice — once by defending it, and now by feeding it," said Michael O'Gorman, executive director of the Farmer Veteran Coalition. "When Kentucky became the first state to honor them for that service in the marketplace, we were anxious to see every farmer veteran in America get that same recognition."

Farm Credit's contribution to the Farmer Veteran Coalition's Homegrown by Heroes program was made possible by the generous support of Agribank of St. Paul, Minn.; AgFirst of Columbia, S.C.; CoBank of Denver, Colo.; and Farm Credit Bank of Texas, based in Austin.

"I have the honor today to be the proudest Kentucky Proud farmer," said farmer/veteran Michael Lewis of Berea, director of Growing Warriors, which helps veterans get started in farming. "The Kentucky Department of Agriculture has, and will continue to, create opportunities for family farmers in Kentucky. Now, with this partnership, that opportunity is going to cross borders and create economic opportunities for farmer/veterans in other states, and for that, I am exceedingly grateful."

Commissioner Comer launched Homegrown by Heroes in January as a brand that identifies agricultural products produced by Kentucky military veterans, providing an incentive for consumers to buy those products and for retailers to stock them on their store shelves.



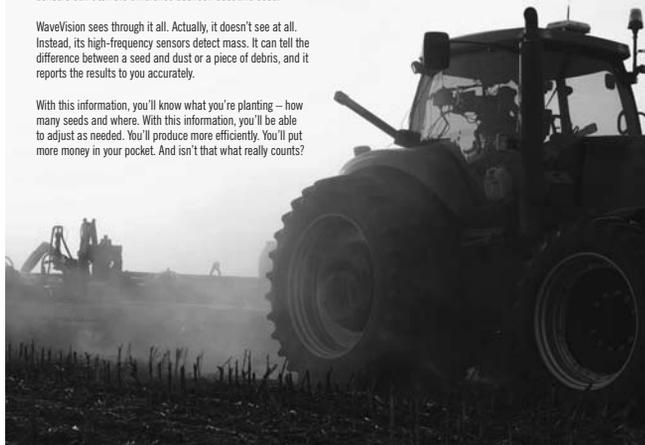
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KFB hosts legislative meeting



House Agriculture Committee Tom McKee (left) addresses a question on a panel with KFB Public Affairs Director Jeff Harper (center) and Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Paul Hornback.

The chairmen of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees met with KFB's Executive Committee and commodity group leaders to discuss issues facing Kentucky's agriculture industry. KFB has a tradition of hosting such a meeting each November in preparation for legislative sessions.

House Ag Committee Chairman Tom McKee of Harrison County and his Senate counterpart, Paul Hornback of

Shelby County, are longtime Farm Bureau leaders. Both have served as county presidents and directors; Hornback also served as a state director.

Primary topics of this year's discussion were: (1) Potential loss of ag development funds stemming from an arbitration case ruling that will reduce Kentucky's Master Settlement Fund payment for 2014; (2) possible reduction in tobacco buyout payments in

Nine commodity groups were represented at the meeting.

2014 because the federal government wants to include that in its mandated budget sequestration; (3) the eminent domain issue involved with the proposed Bluegrass pipeline; (4) a possible comprehensive rewrite of agricultural tax exemption laws; (5) regulatory relief on commercial trucks hauling materials from farms.

The meeting included representatives from the Kentucky Corn Growers Association, Kentucky Soybean Board, Kentucky Small Grain Growers Association, Kentucky Horticulture Council, Kentucky Cattlemen's Association, Kentucky Poultry Federation, Kentucky Dairy Development Council, Kentucky Pork Producers Association and Kentucky Sheep and Goat Producers Association.

Following the state issues segment the group discussed national issues with staff from the offices of Senator Mitch McConnell and Representatives Brett Guthrie, Andy Barr, Thomas Massie and John Yarmuth.

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Two dates, two locations – one great program. Join us at the Cherry Expo Center in Murray on Feb. 6 OR the new Owensboro Convention Center on Feb. 7.

What makes this agenda different than so many of the other meetings you are invited to attend by the various organizations that serve the farming community?

These presenters will give you a no-nonsense, unvarnished look at what you should be (and shouldn't be) doing to get those higher yields. They don't have any seed or fertilizer for sale, and they can offer expertise in the science of higher yields and experience in soils and fertility treatments without having to keep a specific product or service in mind.

AGENDA *All times are CST*

- 10:00 a.m. **Welcome – Committee Chair**
Barry Alexander
- 10:05 a.m. **What Makes Soybeans Yield 100 Bushels?**
Dr. Larry Purcell
- 10:50 a.m. **Having Enough Nutrients for High Yields**
Dr. John Grove
- 11:40 a.m. **Going to the Extreme on Soybean**
Dr. Seth Naeve
- 12:30 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. **Discussion Panel**
- 3:00 p.m. **Adjourn**



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Dr. Larry Purcell is a crop physiologist who has spent his career working on ways to make higher soybean yields a reality. He is the ONLY university researcher pulling data from Kip Cullers' record-breaking fields, and he's set up test plots in nearby Arkansas duplicating Cullers' experiments. Dr. Purcell has topped the 100 bushels-per-acre mark in his research plots, and will share what he's learned.

Dr. John Grove knows there is a tremendous amount of information and products on the market today. He also knows there's a lot of "snake oil" for sale. Fortunately, he can tell the difference and will present farmers with the unvarnished, no-disclaimers truth about what additives and fertilizers soybean fields in Kentucky actually need to increase yield.

Dr. Seth Naeve is leading a national project funded by the United Soybean Board, and he knows that no two fields are created equal. The first phase of this exciting project was summarized in the Corn and Soybean Digest *Extreme Beans*. His team is looking at practical management practices for most of your acres, and he will discuss a multitude of treatments aimed at getting the most yield from soybean.

RSVP to the Kentucky Soybean Board at (800) BEAN-SOY no later than Jan. 24 (reservations are required – seating is limited!) to reserve your spot at this workshop designed to help you put more beans in the bins and more bucks in the bank!





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