



State Women's Chair, Betty Farris (left) presented Joni Horn, the Mercer County Women's Chair with the Top County for the Women's Gold Star Award.

## Going for the Gold

Mercer County's Women's Committee and the Young Farmer's Committee both received the Gold Star Award for excelling in KFB activities and programs.



Jamie DeHart & Zack Ison received the Young Farmer's Gold Star Award from Mark Haney, the President of Kentucky Farm Bureau (left) and David Beck, the Executive VP (right).

## MCFB WINS TOP COUNTY AGAIN—2ND YEAR IN A ROW!



Mercer County Farm Bureau Federation participated & excelled in many of the KFB-recommended activities & programs winning them the prestigious Top County Award at the 2016 KFB Annual Meeting for the second year in a row. The meeting was held in Louisville on Nov. 29-Dec.2. Pictured left to right are as follows: Back Row; Bill Waggener—Mercer Co. Treasurer, John Sparrow— Executive VP & CEO KFB Insurance, Jamie DeHart—Board Member, Cary King—Mercer Co. VP, Zack Ison—Mercer Co. President & Tiffany Ison—Board Member; Front Row; Mary Kay Mayo, Leon Mayo—Agency Manager, Libby Stocker—Agent, Linda McClanahan—Ag. Agent, Beth Kelly—Federation Secretary, David S. Beck— KFB Federation Executive VP, Board Members Megan DeHart, Joni Horn & Peggy Waggener.

### KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU MISSION STATEMENT

*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.*

# COMMUNITY AG NEWS

## Harrodsburg FSA Service Center



United States Department of Agriculture  
Farm Service Agency

Livestock producers: Remember!! If you have cattle or other livestock losses, you **MUST** notify the FSA office within 30 days from the date of the loss in order to meet program eligibility. **NOTIFICATION** must be made within 30 days. ARC/PLC (corn program) signups can now be taken and will continue until August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Also, if you have a change of address OR change bank accounts **DON'T FORGET** to notify our office. And last but not least, if you have an email account, go online and subscribe to our online newsletter to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe> and keep informed! For more information, contact the Harrodsburg FSA Service Center located at 225 Morris Drive, Harrodsburg, KY, or by calling (859) 734-4326 or 1-888-758-6777.

## Mercer County Conservation District Programs to Assist the Community



The Mercer County Conservation District will honor all winners of the 2016 Art & Writing Contest at an awards banquet on Tuesday night, April 18, 2017 at the Lions Park Community Center. The conservation district will have its annual spring tree seedling giveaway mid March for all Mercer County landowners. In addition, don't forget to get your Tree Rebate Certificate. Each landowner can receive 50% of the cost of a tree (with \$50 cap). Trees must be purchased from Reynolds Nursery or GardenScapes. For more information call Linda at the local Conservation Office at 859-734-6889 ext. 3. The Mercer County Conservation District along with the Mercer County Extension Service pays 100 % of the cost for soil testing.

## Did You Know That Farm Bureau Has A Bank ?



Ask Beth or any CSR about the Farm Bureau Bank, which offers loans for vehicles, motorcycles, boats, recreation, equipment, mortgage, sport vehicles along with certificates of deposits, rewards MasterCard and much, much more. Flexible Financing with low competitive rates as low as 2.99 APR\* for vehicle loans. For more information log onto [farmbureaubank.com/](http://farmbureaubank.com/).



## Free Signs at MCFB

**\$5,000 REWARD**

FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF PERSONS COMMITTING THEFT, VANDALISM, ARSON, OR INSURANCE FRAUD ON THIS PROPERTY.

**FARM BUREAU MEMBER**



[kyfb.com](http://kyfb.com)

## Winter Safety Tips

- Remove the garden hose from the outside water faucets and insulate
- Know where your main water shut off-valve is located along with your water meter and insulate your water meter
- Turn hot & cold water taps to a trickle during extreme cold temperatures
- Have your gas furnace or stove inspected by a licensed professional yearly
- To prevent fires, have your chimney cleaned for your wood stove/fireplace



## FOOD CHECK-OUT WEEK®



## Food Check-Out Week

Food Check-Out Week is a national campaign led by the American Farm Bureau Federation commemorating America's healthy, nutritious, abundant, and affordable

food supply. Mercer County Farm Bureau will hold events to help heighten awareness of these aspects of our food supply and help bring thanks and recognition to the farmers.

Americans currently spend, on average, just over 10 percent of their disposable, personal income for food—THE LOWEST IN THE WORLD. Applying that statistic to the calendar year means the average household will have earned enough disposable income to pay for its annual food supply in about 7 weeks. In recognition of this, Kentucky Farm Bureau is celebrating February 19-25, 2017, as Food Check-Out Week.

## KY Farm Bureau Credit Monitoring Service



As a KFB member, you & your family automatically receive identity theft recovery services. KFB is offering a credit monitoring service for \$50 for an individual & \$80 for a family yearly. You will be notified by an email within 24 hours of any changes to your TransUnion credit report. To sign up, go to [kyfb.com/idtheft](http://kyfb.com/idtheft).

## PAY YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES WITH MEMBERSHIP EASYPAY®

Enroll simply by visiting the local office or register online at [kyfb.com/easypay](http://kyfb.com/easypay). When your 2018 Membership is due, it will be deducted from your bank account via Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). No check to write, no stamps to buy, no envelope to mail.



## Mercer County Farm Bureau *Local Membership Discount Program*

The Mercer County Farm Bureau Federation has partnered with several local businesses to offer significant discounts to our members. Please give the merchant your member number on your membership card in order to take advantage of the valuable discounts listed at [kyfb.com/mercer](http://kyfb.com/mercer).

**Farm Bureau – it pays to be a member!**

## Mercer County's Got Talent! More State Winners at 2016 KFB Annual Meeting



Gunner Wagoner presented his exhibit in the 2016 *Science in Agriculture Program* and received an award of recognition and \$125 presented by Vickie Bryant, Women's First Vice Chair.



Bliss Swabey showcased her talent in the Variety Contest as a representative of the 5th District. She received \$250 from Jeff Koch, Vice President KFB Insurance Product & Risk Management (left), and David Beck, Executive Vice President Federation (right).



Marlee Henson presented her exhibit in the 2016 *Science in Agriculture Program* and received an award of recognition and \$125 presented by Vickie Bryant, Women's First Vice Chair.



Beth Kelly won 2nd Place in the statewide County Farm Bureau Information Award for 2016. It is in recognition of excellence in member communications, outreach, media relations, and Farm Bureau promotion. Award was presented by B. Todd Bright, KFB Communication Division Director.

MCFB Young Farmer Committee is selling t-shirts for \$10 to raise money for the Young Farmer Scholarship. Adult & children sizes are available.



### 2016 Young Farmers Chili Supper

Participants raised money for the Harrodsburg Herald Love Tree on November 19 at the Mercer County Extension Office. There were over 150 people in attendance raising over \$2,200 to assist 2 families with six children in need. Thanks to everyone for contributing to this effort!



Carey Brown, KY Cattlemen's Publication Coordinator, nominated by the Mercer County Farm Bureau, was awarded the Communications Award by B. Todd Bright, KFB Communication Division Director (left), and David S. Beck, Executive Vice President (right).

### **\$ KY Farm Bureau Member Benefits \$**

<https://www.kyfb.com/federation/member-benefits/>

- \$500 off your next Chevrolet, GMC or Buick
- Air Evac Lifeteam—KFB Members pay \$55 a year for their membership instead of \$65.

There are many more statewide KFB discounts at [kyfb.com](http://kyfb.com). Also, check out the 30 LOCAL DISCOUNTS at [kyfb.com/mercer](http://kyfb.com/mercer)



**Mercer County Farm Bureau Federation**  
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 Harrodsburg, KY 40330  
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### **2017 Officers and Board Members**

**President:** Zack Ison

**Vice President:** Cary King

**Secretary:** Charlie Ison

**Treasurer:** Bill Waggener

#### **Board Members**

Geraldine Brown, Honorary Member

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Jamie DeHart Leigh McRay

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Glenn Devine Kendra Rowland

Jason Devine Marla Seraji

Martina Devine Rasheed Seraji

Bruce Harper Peggy Waggener

Jimmy Howard Donald Webb

Joni Horn Linda McClanahan

Tiffany Ison Ex-Officio

Mike Jones

Beth Kelly, Federation Admin. Asst.

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**If you ate today, THANK A FARMER!**

### **CHEMICAL ORDER**

Farm Bureau is offering the Chemical Program for the 6th year. The chemicals have a discounted price for KFB members. The order forms will be available in late January and deliveries will be made late March or early April. For more information, please call 734-4341 for Beth at the MCFB office.

## **College Scholarships Available due February 28, 2017**

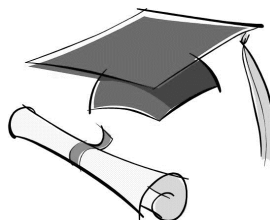
### **\$1,000 Mercer Co. Farm Bureau Scholarship**

For several years, Mercer County Farm Bureau has awarded \$1,000 to a selected Mercer County senior each year to help pay for their college. Applications are available from high school counselors at MCSHS and Burgin and at the local Farm Bureau office. One application makes a student possibly eligible for the county scholarship as well as over 30 state-wide Kentucky Farm Bureau scholarships for high school seniors.

#### **Eligibility requirements include:**

1. Membership in Mercer Co. Farm Bureau
2. A Minimum 3.5 GPA or 23 ACT Score
3. Graduating High School Senior

Applicants are not required to be active in agriculture or farming. Winners are selected by Kentucky Farm Bureau in Louisville.



### **\$1,000 Mercer County Farm Bureau YOUNG FARMER Scholarship**

This will be the sixth year for the Mercer County Farm Bureau Young Farmer Scholarship. This scholarship is designed to be awarded to a Mercer County student who is pursuing a college degree in Agriculture. Applicants are required to be a graduating high school senior from a member household and hold a minimum GPA of 2.5. This

scholarship requires a separate application from the Mercer Co. Farm Bureau Scholarship.

The application is available from the high school counselors, the MCSHS website, or the Mercer County Farm Bureau office on Morris Drive. Contact Beth or Leon at Farm Bureau for more details, or email Beth at Beth.Kelly@kyfb.com for a

copy of either of these scholarship applications.

### **Some Important Dates to Remember . . .**

- Mercer Co. Cattlemen's Educational Meeting, Jan. 16
- KY Cattlemen's Annual Meeting, Jan. 19-20, Lexington
- KFB Young Farmer Leadership Conference, Jan. 20-22
- Ag Expo, Jan. 25 in Owensboro
- KFB Food Check-Out Week, Feb. 19-25
- College Scholarship Applications due Feb. 28
- KFB State Women's Leadership Conference, Mar. 10-11
- KY Ag Literacy Week, Mar. 19-25



Your local  
Farm Bureau Agency