

Kentucky

F A R M • B U R E A U • N E W S



RURAL BROADBAND:

Going the last mile

KFB PARTICIPATES IN CANADIAN TRADE MISSION

USDA UNDER SECRETARY FOR TRADE VISITS KENTUCKY

2018 SCHOLARSHIP EDITION

AUGUST 2018

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KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS
Volume 17 | No. 6
August 2018

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Broadband tower in Shelby County.

Interior graphics by Melissa LaRoche

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President's COLUMN

SUMMERTIME IS THE TIME FOR THE KENTUCKY STATE FAIR



Having grown up on the farm and in a rural community, the summer season was always something I looked forward to even though it was a busy time for our family and our neighbors, as well.

I gained a strong sense of gratitude as we moved through each growing season with the anticipation of a strong fall harvest. There is a kind of satisfaction that is like no other when we look out over a tall corn field or a flourishing soybean crop; when we see healthy calves growing strong and tobacco leaves waving in the breeze; when we smell a freshly cut hay field and experience a summer sunset over rolling pastures.

It's hard to explain those emotions if you don't live on a farm. But we are lucky to be living where we do, with so much rural land to see, and so many great advocate organizations such as Kentucky Farm Bureau working hard to share that farm feeling with all of our citizens.

The success of farm families affects everyone in that we all need food to survive. We all have skin in the game. For me, nowhere is that connection more evident than at the many county fairs taking place each summer in communities across the Commonwealth culminating with the great Kentucky State Fair.

With a history dating back more than 200 years, and becoming official in 1902, our state fair is one of the oldest in the country and has always been a place to bring a little of the farm to the city each year.

It's a place to watch the young and not so young exhibit their show animals, crafts, and crops in hopes of bringing home a prized blue ribbon. It's the Sale of Champions, the Championship Horse Show, the Commodity Breakfast, Kentucky Farm Bureau Day, it's Ag Land, and the Pride of the Counties, all rolled into one, with so much more to see, taste and experience.

It's a time to enjoy all kinds of music, all kinds of good local food, and spend valuable family time together.

It's a time we can set aside our worries for a few days and celebrate heritage, rural life, and a country ham that has served as the backdrop of the largest farm-city event in Kentucky since 1964; the KFB Annual Country Ham Breakfast and Charity Auction.

This state fair really is a showcase of all that is great in Kentucky and each year allows more than 600,000 people to enjoy a little of that greatness. And yes, it's a place we can all enjoy the farm, if only for the day.

No matter how busy we get; no matter where we live; no matter if we farm for a living or live because of farming; let's spend some quality time this summer with our families. Let's enjoy a sunset or two, and who knows, maybe I'll see you at the fair.

Mark Haney

President

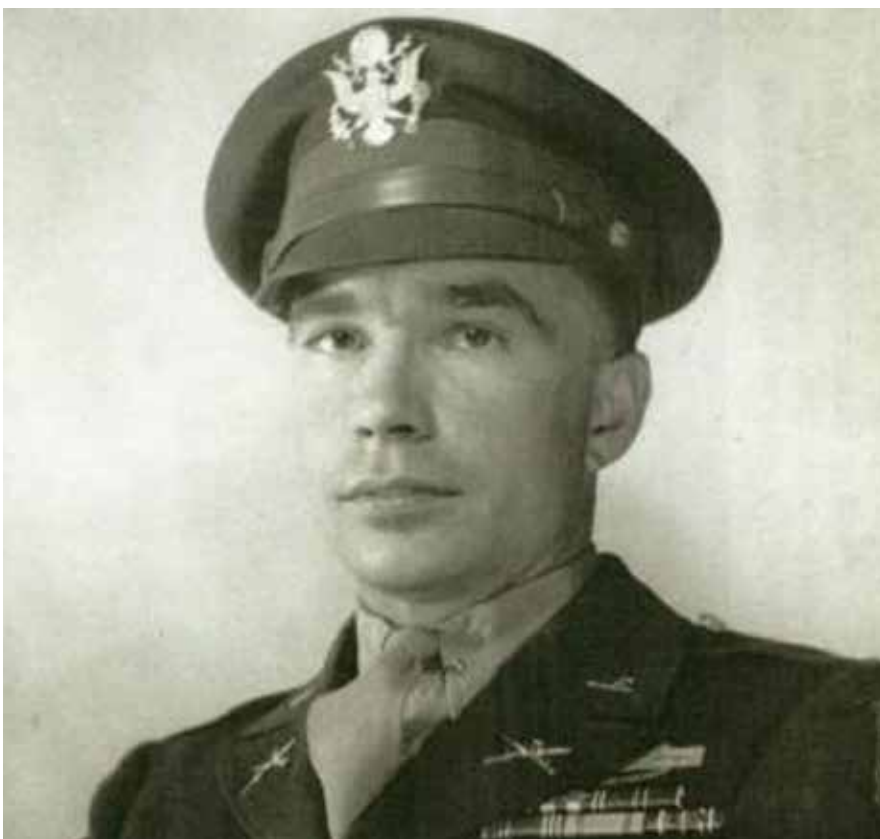
Kentucky Farm Bureau

A TRUE AMERICAN HERO

On June 26, 2018, First Lieutenant Garlin Murl Conner was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Honor in a ceremony at the Whitehouse. A true American hero, Lt. Conner was one of the most highly decorated soldiers in the history of the United States. He also exemplified leadership as President of Clinton County Farm Bureau for 17 years.

"Lt. Garlin Murl Conner was indeed a giant. In his daring, his devotion, and his duty, he was larger than life. And that, he was. He will never, ever be forgotten. We will never forget his story," said President Donald J. Trump. "We pay tribute to this Kentucky farm boy who stared down evil with the strength of a warrior and the heart of a true hero."

The following day, June 27, 2018, Lt. Conner was inducted into the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes which contains the names of every Medal of Honor recipient. Lt. Conner's name will now be permanently enshrined there along with the names of nearly 3,500 others who also earned the honor.



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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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Comment COLUMN



Farm Bill Will Help Farmers and Ranchers Weather the Economic Storm, Other Challenges

A storm is brewing in farm country in the form of a dragging agricultural economy, a shaky outlook for our export markets and a dire ag labor shortage. Farmers and ranchers are used to dealing with tough and unpredictable weather, but that doesn't mean they don't hope and pray for a break in the clouds. Finally, the sun came through

earlier this summer with the House and Senate passage of their respective farm bills.

Of course, Congress can't legislate agriculture out a fifth straight year of lower net farm income, put more much-needed workers in the fields or knock down ever-expanding trade barriers. But, through the farm bill, lawmakers can provide the certainty of farm programs that offer price and revenue protection, opportunities for conservation and federal crop insurance, which has become farmers' most important risk management tool.

The farm bill also addresses key issues for rural communities, like access to health care, educational and business opportunities and high-speed internet. The measure paves the way for public-private partnerships to support cutting-edge research, and gives a hand to beginning farmers and ranchers through funding for training and assistance.

It's not only farmers, ranchers and rural communities who rely on the farm bill. The measure ensures critical food assistance for families and healthy foods for children and seniors in need. Failure to pass a new farm bill would put our nutritious and affordable food supply in jeopardy—a risk no one wants to take.

We can't forget what a strong farming and ranching economy means to the entire U.S. The food and agriculture sector supports more than 21 million jobs in this country, contributing \$992 billion to U.S. gross domestic product in 2015. We need people to grow the food, yes, but we need even more workers to get it from the farm and ranch to your table. Agriculture and its related industries are categorized as the single largest U.S. manufacturing sector, representing 11 percent of all U.S. jobs.

No piece of legislation is ever perfect, but the House and Senate's respective farm bill efforts give us a solid framework for progress. Though we do have concerns about certain aspects of both bills, we're confident that they will be satisfactorily addressed by the House/Senate conference committee. We look forward to working with conferees from both chambers to get the best possible farm bill done for rural America.

A lot of hard work and give-and-take have gone into moving the farm bill process forward, and there is more ahead. I am grateful for all our grassroots members and state Farm Bureaus have done to get us to this point. We are eager to get a final measure to the president's desk before the Sept. 30 expiration of the current farm bill, and, this time, at least, it seems the forecast is favorable.

Andrew Walmsley

Director, Congressional Relations
American Farm Bureau Federation.

RURAL BROADBAND: GOING THAT LAST MILE

The drive through Henry County, Kentucky is filled with sights of scenic cropland, numerous hay fields and rolling green pastures full of livestock, leaving no doubt that agriculture is king in the rural sections of this region. The turn into the drive of the Douglas farm offers more of the same.

For those acclimated to a rural lifestyle, it would seem this place has all the necessary components to be a farmer. But there is one thing missing that farm families need now more than ever before; adequate broadband coverage.

In this modern world of technological advances, connectivity is a necessity now, as opposed to a luxury. But often, rural areas in Kentucky and other parts of the country still don't have consistent enough service to adequately send email let alone provide the means to operate things like sophisticated GPS mapping systems and fail-proof cell service. Being 'connected' is critical to the success of family farms.

Kylen Douglas knows all too well how much broadband plays in his life on the farm where he grew up. It now serves as home to his wife and children.

He readily admits there's no other place on the planet he would rather be, but modern farming and technology go together and in his part of the world, that doesn't always happen.

"A lot of times it depends on which hill you're standing on and which way the wind blows as to whether or not I can get service out here," he said. "And that can get frustrating at times especially when you are really depending on it."

In addition to seeing this issue from a farming perspective, Kylen also sees it as it relates to his off-farm job, as an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Franklin County High School. The lack of adequate broadband service can make that job a little more challenging when trying to work from home, which is something teachers often do.



Beth and Kylen Douglas at home on their farm in Henry County.

"I've lived on this farm my whole life except for a few years and while I attended college. It is a very traditional farm that includes tobacco, hay, some of which is organic hay, a smaller feeder cattle operation, and a couple of beef cattle herds along with corn and soybeans," he said. "But even the most traditional of farms rely on good broadband service and once you get away from the Interstates, the service out here gets pretty sparse."

Beth Douglas, Kylen's wife, takes care of most of business needs and paper work for the farm while also being a stay-at-home mom with their three children. She points out that although the farm is located in an area just outside of the triangle that includes the large metro areas of Louisville, Lexington and Cincinnati, the service they need near Pleasureville is just not there.



Preparing for a day on the farm

"We can get service here but it's not the quality service you get when closer to bigger cities," she said. "As we use the internet more and more for things like taking online classes, ordering goods for the farm and family, and even working some jobs from home, the need for adequate service grows, as well."

As poor as the service can be at times, it gets even worse if both Beth and Kylen are online at the same time. "It becomes really slow around 6:30 at night when more people are home and using their computers," he said.

From a teacher's perspective, Kylen said he can sympathize with his students who live in the more rural areas and have a difficult time using the internet for school homework. With students in his county having individual access to Chromebooks, much of what they do for school is now done via the computer and the internet.

"I do have many students that live in rural areas like I do so I understand that sometimes, in giving a certain assignment, those students may not be able to do it," he said. "And a lot of our assignments are internet-based nowadays and you have to adapt. But for myself and rural students you have to keep in mind that that service just may not be available."

Often Douglas has to make the trip into town to be able to complete a task for school or the farm utilizing broadband service and says that it could be just the price for living where he does.

His neighbor and local advocate to improve the rural broadband service in Henry County doesn't see it that way.

Janet Grissom has worked for 30 years in Washington D.C. in many public service jobs, including having once served as Senator Mitch McConnell's chief of staff and in the Whitehouse under the George H.W. Bush administration.

She said the lack of broadband service in rural areas is appalling and it holds back the communities, and the businesses and people in those communities.

"The internet has become as basic of a utility as water or electric. Students have to be able to access the internet to do their homework; small business people need it for marketing purposes, farmers need it for their businesses, and the Franklinton Baptist Church needs it to stream their Sunday services for those who can't get out!" she said. "But it's a complicated issue and it's not all going to come from the government or the private sector but it has to be a partnership."

Grissom said in order for broadband to get to that last mile, it has to remain a priority, noting all the sectors that are affected by it including economic development, healthcare, agriculture and education, for instance.

"There is only going to be more and more need for high speed internet to stay connected," she said.

Michael Douglas, a cousin to Kylen, lives in the same area and farms fulltime. While he still farms for the most part without that connectivity, he said because advanced technology is more and more a part of the industry, he doesn't expect that to be the case for much longer.

"I don't think we have gotten to the point of having to have complete broadband service on some farming operations yet, but it's moving that way," he said. "It's getting to where you will have to use more modern technology or you'll get left behind."

He pointed out that even with the more modern equipment, you need adequate broadband service in order for that equipment to work properly and for periodic software updates to take place.

Kylen said even though he, his wife and cousin all have college degrees in agriculture, technology changes quickly and you have to continually learn to keep up with those changes.

"Even the smallest of new 'tools' that will give you an extra bushel or an extra pound or two, can make a lot of difference," he said. "This is especially true when it comes to marketing. There's a big difference when you're selling feeder calves and able to get an extra two, three or four cents a pound. And that can change, so if the market is up you have to be able to go. Without that information you get through the internet, you are just rolling the dice."

Having consistent internet service drives all of these issues such as software updates, marketing information, and GPS mapping; and adequate broadband drives the internet.

Kylen and Michael said in listening to what their parents and grandparents said about the advantages electricity and city water made when coming to their rural part of the world, it would only make sense that sufficient broadband service should be next.

TRADE MISSION TO CANADA

KFB participates in trade mission to Kentucky's biggest export market

For the first time ever, an agriculture-only trade mission to Canada took place recently, organized by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) and the World Trade Center Kentucky. The trip, sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau, Masterfeeds/Alltech, the Kentucky Distillers' Association, and the Kentucky Thoroughbred Association, sent an agriculture delegation to Toronto and Guelph to meet with officials there along with U.S. Ambassador to Canada Kelly Craft.

That Kentucky delegation was comprised of several state ag officials including Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles and KFB First Vice President Eddie Melton.

Quarles said the trip enabled the group to strengthen relationships with our friends to the north.

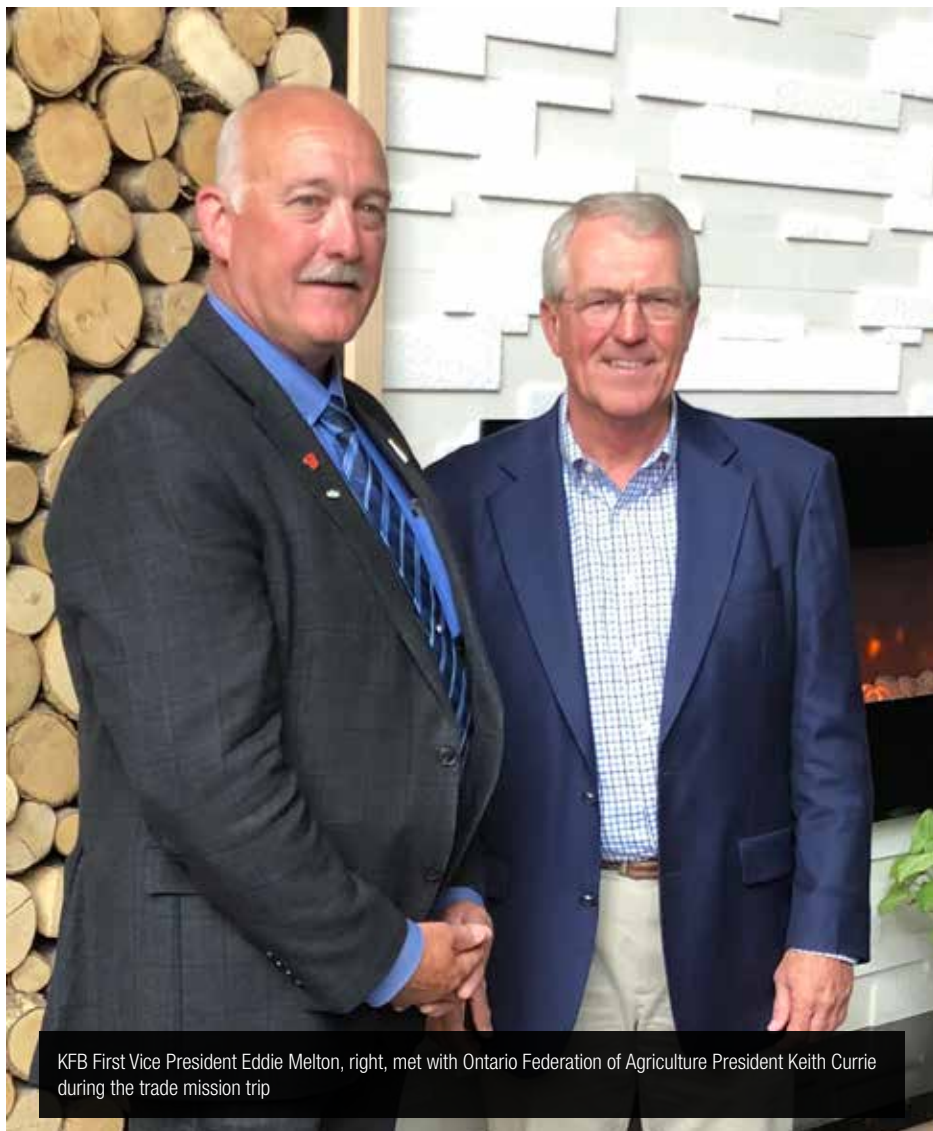
"It's important to realize that Kentucky's agriculture depends on international trade," he said. "Half of our soybeans go overseas, a quarter of our corn and 80 percent of our tobacco. We decided to go to Canada first because we have great trading relationships with them plus with the re-negotiations of NAFTA on the horizon, it's important, at the state level, we have a strong presence."

Quarles said the trip was highlighted by the presence of Craft, a Kentucky "farm girl" herself.

"She generously spent two days with us, opening doors to a Canadian network of agri-businesses, political leaders and people in the academic world who can help collaborate research between Kentucky State University, the University of Kentucky and the University of Guelph," he said.

Melton said such a trip is important to Kentucky farm families in that it shores up relationships with customers outside of the U.S.

"We need our international customers and meeting with officials in Canada helped us in our efforts to fortify existing markets and create new ones," he said. "We should never understate



KFB First Vice President Eddie Melton, right, met with Ontario Federation of Agriculture President Keith Currie during the trade mission trip

the importance of international trade nor should we take for granted the relationships we have with countries like Canada."

Melton added in meeting with our trading neighbors, it's good to let them know how much we want to continue these trade relationships.

Both Quarles and Melton agreed that the trip was a complete success.

"The Canadians were impressed that a state-level delegation made the trip and they were also impressed with the number of Kentucky grown ag products already existing in that part of Canada," said Quarles. "Regardless of what happens with trade negotiations

or tariffs, we feel Kentucky's presence in Canada this summer couldn't have come at a better time and the results speak for themselves because we came home with some substantial wins."

Melton said the mission demonstrates how positive collaboration results in positive outcomes.

"This trip was a success because the agriculture related organizations in this state work so well together and when we work together great things can be accomplished," he said. "We know that, and I think our Canadian friends see that now, as well. We are open for business and we want Canada and the rest of the world to know it."

2018 COUNTY ANNUAL MEETINGS

All times are local

ADAIR COUNTY

September 18, 2018 | 7:00 p.m.
Lindsey Wilson Cranmer Dining Hall

ANDERSON COUNTY

October 8, 2018 | 5:00 p.m.
Eagle Lake Convention & Expo Center

BATH COUNTY

September 18, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Bath County Agriculture Center

BELL COUNTY

September 27, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Bell County Farm Bureau Office

BARREN COUNTY

September 15, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.
Cave City Convention Center

BOONE COUNTY

September 10, 2018 | 7:00 p.m.
Boone County Extension Enrichment Center

BOURBON COUNTY

October 4, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.
Legion Park, Paris

BUTLER COUNTY

September 11, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.
Eva J. Hawes Building, Morgantown

CARLISLE COUNTY

August 1, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
UK County Extension Office, Bardwell

CLINTON COUNTY

September 13, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Clinton County Fairgrounds

DAVIESS COUNTY

August 16, 2018 | 5:00 p.m.
Reid's Orchard

FAYETTE COUNTY

October 18, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.
Fayette County Extension Office

FLEMING COUNTY

August 8, 2018 | 11:30 a.m.
Fleming County Farm Bureau Office

GRANT COUNTY

September 14, 2018 | 5:00 p.m.
Alpine Hills Dairy Farm

HARLAN COUNTY

September 15, 2018 | noon
Harlan County Farm Bureau Office

HENRY COUNTY

October 11, 2018 | 7:00 p.m.
Henry County Farm Bureau Office

JACKSON COUNTY

September 17, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Jackson Energy Farm

JOHNSON COUNTY

October 30, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Johnson County Farm Bureau Office

LAWRENCE COUNTY

October 16, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Down Home Grill

LEWIS COUNTY

August 5, 2018 | 12:30 p.m.
Ruggles Camp

LOGAN COUNTY

September 8, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Logan County Extension Office

LYON COUNTY

September 14, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Lyon County Convention Center

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

September 10, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Magoffin County Extension Office

MARTIN COUNTY

October 5, 2018 | 9:00 a.m.
Martin County Farm Bureau Office

MCLEAN COUNTY

August 4, 2018 | 5:00 p.m.
McLean County High School

MENIFEE COUNTY

September 12, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Cornbread Cafe

OLDHAM COUNTY

August 7, 2018 | 7:00 p.m.
Oldham County LaGrange Farm Bureau Office

OHIO COUNTY

August 7, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.
Ohio County Extension Office

RUSSELL COUNTY

September 7, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Fairgrounds

SCOTT COUNTY

September 18, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.
Scott County Extension Office, south room

SHELBY COUNTY

October 6, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.
Shelby County Extension Office

SIMPSON COUNTY

August 30, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.
Jim Roberts Community Park Agriculture Building

SPENCER COUNTY

September 24, 2018 | 7:00 p.m.
Spencer County Extension Office

TAYLOR COUNTY

September 10, 2018 | 7:30 p.m.
Taylor County Farm Bureau Office

TRIMBLE COUNTY

August 16, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Extension Office in Bedford

UNION COUNTY

June 23, 2018 | 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
Union County Fairgrounds

WARREN COUNTY

September 22, 2018 | 5:30 p.m.
South Warren High School

WAYNE COUNTY

September 24, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Aspire Center in Monticello

WHITLEY COUNTY

September 11, 2018 | 6:00 p.m.
Brashears Grocery

ROWAN COUNTY

October 2, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.
Rowan County Farm Bureau Board Room

Landowners: Key to Program's Success!

Kentucky's hunters continue to feed the hungry by donating their game.

Crop damage?

Photo by Stevecreek.com

Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry

is a positive force for good. ENROLL YOUR FARM in the Kentucky Whitetail Access Program and KHFH will connect you with hunters to remove crop damaging deer from your property.

We will send you information on interested hunters. **You control the decisions. You control the outcome. Join the fight and help feed those in need.**

Hunters may drop off a tele-checked deer at a participating processor. KHFH pays for the processing. Dare to Care then distributes the ground venison to local food banks and soup kitchens. Monetary donations are also welcome. Please visit kyhuntersforthehungry.info



Healthy meals get a great start with venison.

Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry and Dare to Care Food Bank striving to fight hunger in Kentucky.

Visit: kyhuntersforthehungry.info and daretocare.org



2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS . . .

KFB and county Farm Bureau organizations provided 402 college scholarship grants this year totaling \$465,400. The scholarships were awarded to recipients who displayed the greatest levels of academic excellence, involvement in extracurricular activities, leadership abilities and financial need. Scholarship sponsors and the recipients are:

SAM MOORE SCHOLARSHIP – \$4,000

- Awarded to a student attending a Kentucky college/university and pursuing a four-year degree in animal health/veterinary technology or a related field.
- Lexie Morgan Craig, Bath County

LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIPS

– \$3,000 EACH

- Awarded to students of farm families attending a Kentucky college or university.
- Rianah Paige Fields, Ballard County; Jasmine Gabrielle Rayburn, Greenup County

KFB YOUNG FARMER SCHOLARSHIP – \$2,000

- Awarded to a college upperclassman. Student must be attending a Kentucky college/university and majoring in agriculture or a related field.
- Adam Garrett Sanderson, Anderson County

KFB YOUNG FARMER SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000

- Awarded to a college upperclassman. Student must be attending a Kentucky college/university and majoring in agriculture or a related field.
- Morgan Faith Munsey, Wayne County

KFB EMPLOYEE CHILD SCHOLARSHIP – \$2,000

- Tatum Bright, Oldham County

KFB MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY SCHOLARSHIPS

– \$2,000 EACH

- Taely Beth Freeman, Caldwell County; Lauren Hope Lacy, Wolfe County

KFB INSURANCE AGENTS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

– \$1,000 EACH

- Hanna Grace Irvin, Calloway County; Nathan Alexander Vegh, Shelby County

KFB FEDERATION SCHOLARSHIPS – \$1,000 EACH

- Delaney Grace Simpson, Boyle County; Maranda Rachelle Barker, Bullitt County; Emily Ruth Drew and Alexis Noel Lilly, Calloway County; Hannah Lynn Tucker, Campbell County; Taylor Ivy Davis, Carlisle County; Hillary Kate Payne, Daviess County; James Quentin Allen and Hannah Elizabeth Blaine, Greenup County; Harry Reuts Brown, Hardin County; Melicity Nakay Fraley, Harrison County; Katelynn Marie Bunnell, Hart County; Matthew Perry Andres, Jefferson County; Brooke

McKee Saurer, Letcher County; Jessalyn Marie Robey, Logan County; Olyvia Hayden Holley, Montgomery County; Grace Elizabeth Phelps, Muhlenberg County; Juanita June Vittow, Nelson County; Vada Hayden Miller, Perry County; Macey Nicole Tipton, Robertson County; Shelby Elizabeth Ann Robertson, Russell County; Scott Wilson Randolph and Donavon Nathaniel Alderson, Simpson County; Alexandra Hope Watson, Union County; Hope Maria Rowlett, Warren County; Sarah Marie Downs, Washington County

ALLEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU RALSTON BEWLEY SCHOLARSHIP – \$500

- Stacey Renee Groce

ALLEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000

- Haley Marie Marsh

BARREN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 EACH

Mariah Hughes, Mattea Wyatt

BATH COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,500 EACH

- Cameron Vincent, Lexie Craig

BELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU PAT BIGGERSTAFF SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 EACH

- Cierra Coots

BELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU RAY REED SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 EACH

- Solomon Andres, Charity Asher, Benjamin Bowling, Ashley Bray, Alexis Brock, Kennessa Burke, Allyson Carey, Taylor Daniels, Brooklyn Foister, Izabella Fuson, Taylor Fuson, Virginia Gambrel, Jordyn Hensley, Rachel Hensley, Alyssa Hillman, Anna Howard, Sydney Lay, Taylor McClelland, Katie Thacker, Hannah Turner, Hannah Warren

BOONE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000

- Megan Jane Dwyer, Chelsea Lynne Mobley

BOYD COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,500

- Hannah Carroll

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

- Adriana Brooke Crockett

BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Mason Lee Chandler, Hannah Nicole Dockery

BULLITT COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS – \$2,000 EACH

- Maranda Barker, Krista Dunn, Kolby Faust

BULLITT COUNTY FB YOUNG FARMERS SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,750-\$2,000

- Maranda Barker, Krista Dunn

BUTLER COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000

- Jasmine Creager, Emily Wallace

CALDWELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000

- Hannah York

CALLOWAY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Sara Ann Bazzell, Hanna Irvin, Kristen Lyons

CAMPBELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Deborah Renae Myers, Hanna Katherine Baehner, Kelly Nicole Copenbaker, Dustin Michael Gosney, Lydia Charlotte Kramer

CARROLL COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500-\$750

- Justin Tuttle, Robert Eli Yocum

CASEY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 EACH

- Sara Beth Adkins, Austin Thomas Harne, Madison Elizabeth Meeks, Kendra Joy Wethington, Presley Shaelyn Woodrum

CHRISTIAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 EACH

- Chloe Lassiter Holloway, James Andrew King, Makenzie Brooke Shaw, Victoria Kathryn Sims

CLAY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000

- Jennings Brown Collins, Tori Harris, Carley Renee Hoskins

CRITTENDEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Emmalea Marie Barnes, Mauri Elizabeth Collins, Corbin Jay Wilson, Samuel Enoch Winders

DAVISS COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,500

- Caleb Robert Buckman

DAVISS COUNTY FB INSURANCE AGENTS – \$2,000

- Nia Marie Bard

DAVISS COUNTY TOM CURTSINGER SCHOLARSHIP – \$2,000

- Sarah Claire Caldbeck

DAVISS COUNTY DANIEL L. TURLEY SCHOLARSHIP – \$2,000

- Kennedy Morgan McCollam

DAVISS COUNTY FARM BUREAU YOUNG FARMER SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000

- William Brian Robert Caldbeck

EDMONSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000

- Abby Alexander, Peyton Martin

FAYETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$20,000

- Seth Lee Felts

FAYETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$10,000 EACH

- Zsombor Tamas Gal, Benjamin David Willmoth

FLEMING COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Nicholas Clark, Zachary Hyatt, Katlyn Jett, Carson Prater, Allie Thomas

FLOYD COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 - \$2,000 EACH

- Hannah Bradford, Destiny Paige Compton, Rachel Greene, Tyler Martin, Gregory Ryne Slone, Rachel Gabrielle Williams

FULTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$250 EACH

- Haley M. Hartman, Jada Beth Mathews, Samantha Summer McClure, Allie Shea McCullough, Brandon Stone Willis, Emmalee Elaine Young

GARRARD COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000

- Emily Miller

GRANT COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Jeff Dalton, Mallory Johnson, Austin Perkins, Amber Tien, Madeline Tucker, Morgan Tucker

GRAYSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500

- Ashley McKinney, J. Austin Vanmeter, Shana Bradley, Triniti Bradley, Makenzie Coates, Keragan, Mary Collard, Sarah Elizabeth Conder, Amanda Decker, Shelby Decker, Megan Duvall, Christin Geary, Elizabeth Goff, Cassandra Key, Cori Logsdon, Baleigh Murrain, Sydney Rogers, Noah Saltzman, Makenzie Snyder, Bailey Stevenson, Jacob Stinnett, Kayley Thomas, Briannah Wagner

GREENUP COUNTY RICHARD DUPUY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 EACH

- Amber Walden, Charles “Chaz” Whitt

GREENUP COUNTY RAYMOND IMEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 EACH

- Hannah Blaine

GREENUP COUNTY CLARENCE IMEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP – \$500 EACH

- Heather Robinson

HANCOCK COUNTY FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000 EACH

- Hope Elizabeth Emmick, Shelby Lynn Winchell

HARDIN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Emily Chandler, Rachel Elaine Coleman, Riley Filyaw, Marianna Godfrey, Leann Goodman, Clarissa Mackey, Madelaine Mink, Kasey Nall, Scott Anthony Nelson, Marie Noel, Blake Ryan, Brenton Ryan, Samuel Glenn Smith, Benjamin Thomas, Elijah Thomas, Abbey Wethington

HARRISON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Melicity Nakay Fraley, Anna Katherine Furnish, Dalton Thomas Switzer

HART COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 EACH

- Katelynn Marie Bunnell, Jonah Gregory Carter, Robin Lynn Wilson

HENDERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500

- Erin McClure O’Nan, Daxx Brayden Sugg, Mary Beth Mullican, Hailee M. Hope

HOPKINS COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000

- Victoria Rena Hight, McKenzie Renee Rodgers, Abigail Jo Waide

JACKSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Allison Madden, Jacob Mullins

JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP – \$500 - \$16,000

- Matthew Andres, Kara Cunningham, Janet Kay Gowan, Hayden Larkin, Sophia Samora, Karlee Stevenson, Kynlee Stevenson, Sophia Vargas

JEFFERSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIP – \$500 - \$16,000

Sophia Samora, Aubrey Wells, Cheyenne Young

KNOTT COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000

Jodi Auburn Hall

LAUREL COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$4,000 EACH

Katie Lee Gaines, Brian Jennings Gray

LAWRENCE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 EACH

- Madison Cassell, Victoria Clevenger, Hannah Alyzabeth Mae Preece

LETCHER COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Lindsay B. Bentley, Katherine Braswell, Meghan Combs, Amy N. Cook, Shawnee M. Cress, Makayla N. Jones, Eric Maggard, Jessika C. Moushon, Sophia G. Narramore, Savannah M. Parsons, Brooke Saurer, Brittany M. Smith, Corey S. Sparkman

LIVINGSTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Cheyenne Nicole Johnson, Masa Maren McGrew, Lauren Ashley Schmitt

LOGAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500

- Jessalyn Robey

LYON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 EACH

- Brody Wayne Bridges, Hannah Breanne Holloman

MADISON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Hannah Burchell, Joshua Collier, Bethany Cruse, Bethany Groce, Carly Mays, Cheyenne Shearer

MAGOFFIN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Katie Brooke Collett, John Douglas Ward

MARION COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500-\$600 EACH

- Claire Higdon, Chloe May, Nicholas Sandusky, Alexis Thomas, Luke Thomas, Victoria Van Dyke

MARTIN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Mattia Goble, Lyndsey Horn, Keitlyn Maynard, KarLea Maynard, Lindsey Milleson

MASON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Mandie Appleman, Bryce Johnson, Christian Kalb, Sage Kinney, Elizabeth Moss, Jaclyn Poe, Blaine Pumpelly, Chloe Pumpelly, Kaleigh Zeigler

MCCRACKEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Sarah Elizabeth Englert, Sophie V. Grogan

MCLEAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Branden S. Kinney, Madison N. Sallee

MERCER COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000

Austin James Arnold

MERCER COUNTY FARM BUREAU YOUNG FARMER SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000

Ashley Nichole Nolan

METCALFE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500

Demetria Knipp

MONROE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Lydia Lyon Proffitt, Caroline Grace Rushing

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 EACH

- Justin T. Arnett, Grace A. Clark

MORGAN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 EACH

- Maxwell James Elam, Maylea Montgomery Haney, Gregory Cole Potter, Dalton Clay Sivils, Kristen D. Stacey

MUHLENBERG COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Jolyn Nicole Dorris, Makenna Paige Gill

NELSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$600 EACH

- Rachel Ann Allen, Manita Allison Berry, Patrick Wayne Brady, Christopher Robert Cecil, John Michael Clements, Easton Anthony Culver, Carly Brooke Douglas, Abigail Grace Downs, Davis Sutherland Downs, Lesley Ann Downs, Rose Magdalene Downs, Shelby Lynn Enlow, Kelsey Marie Greenwell, Savanna Alexis Hill, Daniel Seth Milby, Evan Phillip Newsome, Cassie Michaela Parrish, Rachel Hope Tichenor, Juanita June Vittitow, David Martin Williams

NICHOLAS COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500

- Leah Gardner, Wilson Switzer

OLDHAM COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000

- Miles Thomas Moskwa

**OLDHAM COUNTY FARM BUREAU BOYD JOHNSON
HONORARY SCHOLARSHIP – \$2,000**

- Madelyn Grace Burgess

**OLDHAM COUNTY FARM BUREAU CURRENT STUDENT
SCHOLARSHIP – \$3,000**

- Lauren Nicole Siers

OWEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Emily Cammack, Wade Cammack, Lindsay Gill, Madelin Shelton

PERRY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 EACH

- Lauren Amburgey, Katie Jo Campbell, Chalyn Colwell, Anna Combs, Gabrielle Combs, Haley Combs, Richard Cornett, Charles Braxton Cottongame, Erika Cummins, Rachell Dean, Brody Dixon, James Dylan Fields, Madison Gadbury, Kaitlyn Herald, Trista Hill, Brooklyn Kroontz, Haley Madden, Nicholas Gage May, Savannah Miller, Vada Miller, Marryn Mobelini, Alyssa Muha, Kamryn Noe, Katelyn Pigman, Benjamin Chase Rose, Austin Smith, Corey Smith, Dawson Hunter Spurlock, Brooklynn Steele, Isaac Turner, Alexander Vermillion

PIKE COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 EACH

- Jacob A. Adkins, Kerigan Blackburn, Charles D. Broderick, Code Byers, Kassidy M. Childers, Savannah Clevinger, Lucas Coleman, Kaylee Fannin, Alexandria Hagy, Nicholas McNamee, Noah McNamee, Collin D. Noud, Brady Robinson, Evan Rhodes, Breanna Rowe, Ethan F. Wells

POWELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Baylee Brewer, Erika Howard, Megan Norman

PULASKI COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,200 EACH

- Timothy Patric Edwards, Mallory Elisabeth McDonald, Jacob Scott Patterson, Ashton Savannah Todd

**ROCKCASTLE COUNTY FARM BUREAU
– \$500 - \$1,000 EACH**

- Cameron Brown, Cameron Lynn Cornelius, Maggie Kate Franklin, Pamela Miller, Vina Alynn Renner, Sarah Roberts, Megan Taylor

RUSSELL COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 EACH

- Brooke Marie Begley, Brenna Danyelle Posey, Alizabeth Brooklyn Smith

SCOTT COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$650 EACH

- Olivia Arnold, Victoria Cambron, Mason Graves, Anna Hawkins, Emma Long, Anna Moon, Lauren Moore, Morgan Rehm, Cameron Stiglich

SHELBY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000

- Nicholas Allen Eades, Shelby Brooklyn Smith

**SHELBY COUNTY FARM BUREAU ROY V. CATLETT
SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000**

- Hannah Lynn Cleary

SIMPSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Donavon Alderson

SPENCER COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$2,000 EACH

- Logan Cogdill, Tanner Goodlett, Skyler Volz

TRIGG COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$500 EACH

- Morgan Hendricks, Lydia Humphries, Grace Sink, Kaylin Smith

WARREN COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$4,000

- Eve Noel Baughman, Nicole Elizabeth Walters

**WARREN COUNTY FARM BUREAU R.O. BUCHANON
SCHOLARSHIP – \$4,000**

- Alexis Ann Stewart

WASHINGTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU - \$500 EACH

- Haley Carlette Hardin, Timothy Nathaniel Messer, Elizabeth Osborne, Chassity Leeann Warner

WEBSTER COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$1,000 EACH

- Walter Douglas Steely, Samuel William Tapp

WHITLEY COUNTY FARM BUREAU – \$3,000

- Katherine Grace Whitaker

USDA UNDER SECRETARY VISITS KENTUCKY



USDA Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agriculture Affairs Ted McKinney

As concerns over trade issues continue to be a major topic among farmers in Kentucky and across the country, local producers, ag officials and commodity leaders were anxious to hear from USDA Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agriculture Affairs Ted McKinney during his recent trip to the Bluegrass.

Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles hosted a roundtable discussion, at the Limestone Café located in the Keeneland Sales Pavilion, with McKinney, who had come to Kentucky to also speak in front of the state FFA Convention. Quarles opened the conversation by thanking all those in attendance and emphasizing how important trade is to the farm families in Kentucky.

"Agriculture is dependent on access to foreign markets. The American farmer, and more importantly the Kentucky farmer, are so efficient at what

they do that we depend upon selling our products outside of the United States to be successful," he said.

McKinney told the capacity crowd he understands their concerns but this country is going through an "adjustment" when it comes to how it trades with other countries.

"We have our markets pretty much wide open," he said of the U.S. "Tariffs are low, and if you meet the goals on food safety and equivalency and livestock and poultry, bring it on in. We are free traders, for the most part. But, it's not that way around the world and it's probably time, and long overdue, for an adjustment, and that's what we're going through."

When specifically talking about China, McKinney, who had just returned from a trip to that country, said the good news is the two countries continue to converse, although the conversations are candid, they are not mean-spirited.

"There's no pounding the table or meanness and if you can have conversations like that, it's a good thing because it means you are making progress," he said.

McKinney said he believes progress was made during his trip but the commitments made by the Chinese during those talks will need to be verified in the coming weeks and months because promises have been made before that never materialized.

"As long as we're allowed, we're going to continue working with them if there is evidence they mean what they say," he said. "But, it does not mean we relieve the pressure."

When speaking in terms of specific crops, soybeans are by far the top agricultural export in this country. According to the USDA, more than \$21 billion worth of soybeans were exported in 2017. With soybeans being the number one cash crop grown in Kentucky, that market is critical to the success of those producers here, as well as across the country.

McKinney said that no other country can match what China buys when it comes to that crop and he thinks the Chinese will continue to need U.S. soybeans as will other major U.S. trading partners.

But he added that the administration is also looking at an array of different markets, as well, because there is "business to be had" in many other places and, "We shouldn't put all our eggs in one basket."

When speaking about NAFTA, McKinney said those countries involved are good friends and trading partners, something that still stands very strong.

"There is something to say about rethinking this (agreement) after 25 years no matter how good it is operating for us," he said. "But, there is so much trade between our three countries that I think it will end okay."

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KFB CONTINUES ITS SUPPORT OF EDUCATION WITH A SUMMER OF LEARNING

“Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.”

President John F. Kennedy



UK IFAL students received a little hands-on experience with lambs during a field trip to the UK Research Farm in Woodford County

Each summer, Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) hosts a number of events which are all connected by one common denominator; education.

From the Teacher Workshops to the Roadside Market Tour to the Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL) and the Young Farmer Summer Outing; all of these bring teachers, students and Farm Bureau members and leaders together to learn new things, network with others, and discover new ideas.

“The hope in offering these types of events is that those who attend, be they producers on the farm, or teachers and students in the classroom, or young agricultural leaders in the workplace; will have their lives enriched,” said KFB President Mark Haney. “KFB prides itself in providing the best learning opportunities we can to continue our commitment to education at all levels.”

This summer’s events featured a number of “firsts” for those who participated, as well as many of the familiar features offered each year.

KFB REGIONAL TEACHER WORKSHOPS

In continuing a long-standing tradition of providing valuable professional development opportunities to teachers across the state, this year’s KFB Regional Teacher Workshops seemed as popular as ever, as hundreds of teachers and school administrators participated in these annual learning events. Workshop locations included, Lake Barkley in Cadiz; Owensboro River Park Center; Barren River Lake in Lucas; Gheens Foundation Lodge in Louisville; Morehead State University; Pine Mountain in Pineville; and Spindletop Hall in Lexington.

These day-long workshops were designed to address Kentucky’s core educational competencies while showcasing a variety of state and national agricultural topics, incorporating gardening and agriculture into all areas of curriculum through easy-to-replicate interdisciplinary lessons.

In addition to the hands-on ag-related lessons, local field trips were offered along with presentations by other agriculture organizations, all providing learning opportunities for those teachers and administrators in attendance.

Lee Goss, an assistant principal for curriculum and instruction at Mercer County High School was attending her first workshop after hearing so much about it from one of her fellow educators.

“Agriculture is a natural part of our world and students don’t always understand that, and don’t see that until we open their eyes about how ag is involved in everything we are as a society,” she said. “I learned many things that I can take back and share with our teachers and students. This is the type of professional development we need more of. It provides information we can actually apply in different ways in the classroom, because the classroom is different than it was 20 years ago.”

IFAL

KFB’s Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL) continues to be one of the most sought after “summer camps” of its kind in the state for high school juniors.

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

The program also allows students to become more familiar with Farm Bureau and ag issues including a FB 101 session and their participation in the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) developed discussion meet, a debate-style competition for young farmers and agriculturalists.

Alex Burke, a student from Breckinridge County and UK IFAL attendee, said as an FFA member and ag advocate he feels that the younger population should understand some of the pressing issues in agriculture.

"During IFAL, we were able to take a look at some of these issues and come up with potential solutions," he said. "I can say that when I left, I had a much better understanding of some these ag-related concerns that must be solved, and I now realize that my generation will play a large roll in solving them."

Joza Mikulcik, a student from Calloway County and a participant at the Murray IFAL event said the college farm tours were one of her favorite activities that took place there.

"I got to see the different agricultural pursuits taking place and being implemented at MSU," she said.

In speaking about ag issues, Mikulcik said the subject of foreign trade was especially important and one of the topics used during the discussion meet competition.

"I did a lot of research to prepare for this discussion but it has also been a topic around our farm, as well," she said. "Our student group talked about some of the current problems connected to trade but we also talked about the importance of agriculture and what a big part of the economy it is."

ROADSIDE MARKET TOUR

This year's Roadside Market Tour featured a nine-day trip to Alaska, marking the first time the event was held in the country's northern-most state. Each year, this tour is offered as a way for KFB members to discover how markets operate in other states and serves as a way to gain knowledge for their businesses by learning from other similar businesses.

The tour included such stops as the South Anchorage Farmers Market, Vanderweele Farms LLC, Alaska

Flour Company and the Alaska State Fairgrounds, to name a few.

David Chappell, KFB state director, chair of the KFB Roadside Farm Market Committee and producer from Owen County said this was a very special tour in that producers from here got to see "a whole new world" related to roadside farm markets.

"This trip provided our members and producers an opportunity to see a completely different side of the agriculture industry," he said. "But I think it also allowed them to see that no matter where we live or what we grow, as farm families we all face some of the same issues and enjoy some of the same successes in our respective businesses."

YOUNG FARMER SUMMER OUTING

This year's Young Farmer Summer Outing brought nearly three hundred participants to Bowling Green for this annual two-day event. Attendees heard from KFB leadership, who spoke on many topics including the importance of relationships with their local and state lawmakers, the significance of the policy development process, and an update on some of the current agricultural issues going on at the state and national levels.

They also were able to take tours of local agri-businesses and enjoyed family activities. The summer outing traditionally hosts the Discussion Meet preliminaries where the four finalists, who will participate in the state competition at the KFB Annual Meeting, are chosen.

This year's finalists include: Mike Meyer, Harrison County; Lilly

Robertson, Logan County; Mackenzie Wright, Carrol County; and Brian Welch, Hopkins County.

In addition to the Discussion Meet finalist being announced, this year's Young Farm Family finalists were also announced. They are Jonathan and Elizabeth White, from Union County; Nicholas and Bethan Hardesty, from Meade County; and Wesley and Alicia Logsdon, from Pulaski County.

One of the most unique parts of this annual event is the networking opportunities provided through its Eggs and Issues breakfast which brings participants together in their respective districts to discuss issues and concerns they have as it relates to their farming operations and the ag industry as a whole. The attendees will also get a chance to hear from KFB leaders about the most current legislative issues during the breakfast.

John Pedigo is the KFB Young Farmer Committee Chair. He said this outing serves as one of the most important events for young farm families throughout the year.

"As young farmers, events like the summer outing give us a chance to learn from leadership but to also have our voices heard pertaining to a number of issues specific to us," he said. "We need to foster this next generation of agriculturalists in order to ensure we can meet future food and fiber needs in this country and around the world."

To view photos from all of the KFB summer learning events, log on to <https://www.flickr.com/photos/kyfb/collections/72157697508052851>.

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AGRICULTURE ISSUES AND KEEPING MEMBERS INFORMED

Called voting delegate meeting provides opportunity to update members

Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) delegate members recently met in Louisville to vote on an American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) bylaw change adopted at the AFBF convention held last January.

During the called meeting, KFB President Mark Haney and First Vice President Eddie Melton took the opportunity to address and update the delegates on a number of state and national issues facing the agriculture industry.

Issues related to trade, immigration, broadband coverage and the Farm Bill were some of the topics included. Haney said having informed members makes the organization stronger in many ways.

"In order to be the most effective advocates we can be, we must fully understand the issues and be willing to speak up when opportunities arise," he said. "It's our job at KFB to get that needed information to our members and keep them updated, especially in these times when situations related to the agriculture industry are changing daily."

Haney opened his remarks by pointing out how the mission of Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) hasn't changed all that much in the nearly 100 years it has been in existence.

"Our goal now, as it was then, is to safeguard the future of agriculture. In the last 100 years, we have worked through tough issues and there never seems to be a shortage of tough issues," he said. "We are in the midst of some difficult times in agriculture. We can get through these, but we have to have free and fair trade, we must get a farm bill delivered and delivered on time, and we need to have legislation to address the farm labor issue."

Haney pointed out that the retaliatory tariffs that have recently been put into place are effecting farm families but for so long one of American



KFB President Mark Haney updated members on a number of national ag issues.

agriculture's biggest export customers, China, has not been a good trading partner and that has to be dealt with.

"This has been a large market for us; low hanging fruit, but we cannot put all our eggs in one basket. We must look for and develop new markets, and we must get NAFTA approved," he said.

Haney also said the Farm Bill, which is the single most important piece of legislation connected to agriculture, will give farm families some much needed security in this difficult farm economy; all the more reason to get this legislation passed on time.

When addressing immigration and farm labor issues, Haney said it was disappointing to see a couple of recent attempts to pass legislation dealing with this issue fail. But there is another bill being considered in the House. He warned however, that if this current attempt also fails, it could be some time before immigration reform is addressed again.

Melton discussed this year's General Assembly session successes along with several state priority issues. First he emphasized the significance of being involved in the KFB resolution's process.

"It's important for our members to be involved at the local level to discuss policy issues and to move those forward to our resolutions committee," he said. "This is your organization and you need to have a say in what goes in our policy book."

In pointing out some of the legislative accomplishments experienced this year, Melton said many of the KFB priority issues were addressed.

"The 50 percent allocation of the Master Settlement Agreement was left intact, along with funding for the Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost-Share program and adequate funding for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture," he said.

Melton also said that funds were allocated for Western Kentucky University's Kentucky Mesonet system, as well as for the Division of Conservation to provide direct aid to local conservation districts, and the Adult Agriculture Program.

"The significance of those allocations is, they were zeroed out in the original budget proposal and destined for the chopping block," he said. "We worked hard to ensure these items were put back in the final budget, which is a testament to the strength of Farm Bureau when it comes to these situations. Collectively we can achieve great things but we must be persistent in our advocacy, making every effort to protect the most important industry we have and never apologizing for what we do."

In looking ahead, Melton mentioned several issues of importance including continuing support for the expansion of rural broadband and the support of adequate funds for Kentucky's infrastructure needs including roads and bridges, as well as broadband.

Haney concluded his remarks by thanking the group for their attendance and reaffirming KFB's support of its members and all citizens of the Commonwealth.

"We will continue to be here for you and fight for you and all the people of Kentucky when it comes to safeguarding our agricultural and rural way of life," he said.

COUNTY CORNER

Snapshots of County Farm Bureau activities



MARION COUNTY

Kaye Peterson, Marion County Board member, presents a \$500 check from AFBF to Marion County President Timmy Jones. Kaye received this check after participating in a podcast with American Farm Bureau and offering ideas from how her county participates in local food donations for the hungry.



FAYETTE COUNTY

At the Fayette County Farm Bureau June Board meeting Kentucky Court of Appeals candidates Robert Johnson and Pamela Goodwine spoke, as did two circuit court judge candidates, Lucy Vanmeter and John Reynolds.



CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Pictured are this year's Cumberland County Farm Bureau's scholarship winners. Katie Brown and Billy Messenger pose with Kim Muer, President of Cumberland County Farm Bureau, left, and Todd Morgan, Cumberland County Farm Bureau Agent. The students received a \$1,000 scholarship each.



SCOTT COUNTY

Scott County Farm Bureau Ag Adventures Day at the Bluegrass Stockyards.



MEADE COUNTY

Meade County Young Farmers hosted their first annual tractor drive and auction. Proceeds will go to their scholarship fund.



BOONE COUNTY

Members of Boone County Farm Bureau presented the Boone County Farm Bureau Scholarship to Chelsea Mobley. Pictured in front row from left: Chelsea Mobley, Boone County Farm Bureau President Bob Schwenke; Second Row: Tim Alexander, Eddie Coyle (Secretary), John Scott (1st Vice President) and Joe Claxon (Membership Services Coordinator); Third Row: John Terlau (Treasurer), Mike Crane and Whitney Stith.



PIKE COUNTY

Pike County Farm Bureau recently presented Neil Hunt with a check for the local Bee Keeper's Association. Pictured with Hunt are Sharon Slone, left, and Marquette McClanahan, Women's Committee Co-Chairs.



HARDIN COUNTY

Hardin County Farm Bureau partnered with Central Kentucky Community Foundation for a film showing of Farmers for America. Afterwards a panel of local farmers addressed questions from the audience.



SHELBY COUNTY

Shelby County Legislative appreciation dinner. Pictured from left: Senator Paul Hornback, Agency Manager Pat Hargadon, KFB President Mark Haney, and Matt Gajdzik and Nicholas Gajdzik.



BOYD COUNTY

Boyd County Farm Bureau President Ray Sammons, left, and Earl Hardeman worked at the Boyd County Fair promoting Farm Bureau Membership.

MARKETS

LOWER SOYBEAN EXPORTS LEAD TO RECORD SUPPLY

Using a harvested acreage estimate of 88.9 million acres and a projected yield of 48.5 bushels per acre, USDA forecast 2018/19 production at 4.31 billion bushels. Only 2017's record harvest of 4.39 billion bushels is larger. When 2017/18 carryover stocks are also included, the U.S. total supply of soybeans for 2018/19 expands to at an all-time high of 4.8 billion bushels. Following China's recent implementation of an additional 25-percent ad valorem tariff on U.S. soybeans, USDA lowered its 2018/19 export forecast by 250 million bushels to 2.04 billion. Thus, season-ending stocks are forecast up 195 million bushels to an all-time high 580 million. The U.S. season-average farm price in 2018/19 is forecast down to \$8.00-\$10.50 per bushel from \$8.75-\$11.25 in June. Chinese tariffs on U.S. soybeans also caused a sizable increase in soybean sales to other countries thanks to U.S. soybeans being more competitive than South American soybeans. USDA expects this trend to continue into 2019.

USDA ENDS MEDIA'S EARLY ACCESS TO REPORTS

USDA announced new procedures for the release of market-affecting crop and livestock reports from the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

and World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB) to ensure that all members of the public have access to the same information at the same time. Prompted by public concerns, USDA, with assistance from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, examined the "Lockup" procedures and determined that technological advancements (speed of communications, electronic trading platforms) have afforded recipients of customized media reports (written inside the "Lockup" room before the USDA report's release) a market advantage not enjoyed by the public. As a result, beginning August 1, 2018, USDA will provide media the same access to the NASS and WAOB reports as the public, with the information becoming available to all at 12:00 p.m. Eastern on days the reports are released. Some market participants question the effectiveness of USDA's new policy.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY WEIGHTS TREND UP

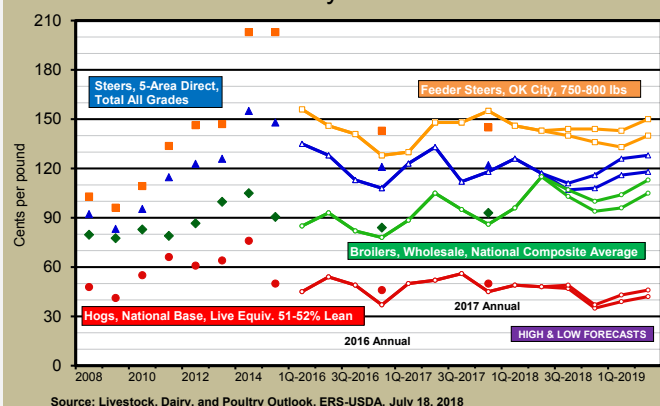
A recent USDA report highlighted that livestock and poultry animals are being harvested at heavier weights than in the past. Along with less-costly feed ingredients (corn/soy) since 2014, improved feed efficiency has contributed to faster growth and higher animal weights. The long-term trend marked by sustained growth in dressed weights and live weights is due, in large

part, to changes in animal genetics and improved production systems. As a result, on average, larger animals are being harvested. On a dressed-weight basis, cattle have increased 73 pounds on average since 2000, a gain of 10 percent. At the same time, hogs have increased 18 pounds, or 9 percent. On a live-weight basis, turkeys are 5.3 pounds (20.5 percent) larger on average, while broilers are 1.2 pounds (23.9 percent) larger.

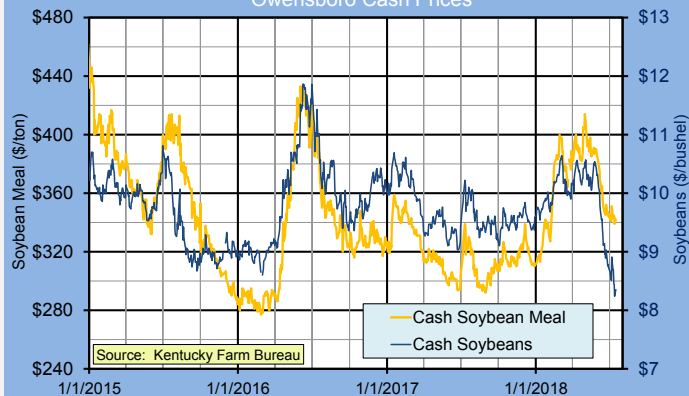
U.S. GRAIN EXPORTS SET 2ND-QUARTER RECORD

Second quarter (2nd-Qtr) 2018 (April-June) inspections of wheat, corn, and soybeans for export from all major U.S. ports reached a record 34.7 million metric tons (mmt), according to USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA). Inspections were up 16 percent from 2nd-Qtr 2017 and were 51 percent above the 5-year average. 2nd-Qtr Pacific Northwest (PNW) grain inspections reached a record 11.8 mmt, up 10 percent from last year and 77 percent above the 5-year average due to robust corn exports to Asia. 2nd-Qtr U.S. Gulf grain inspections reached 16.9 mmt, up 20 percent from last year and 33 percent above the 5-year average. Interior (land-based) inspections reached a record 4.8 mmt, up 17 percent from last year, and 66 percent above the 5-year average.

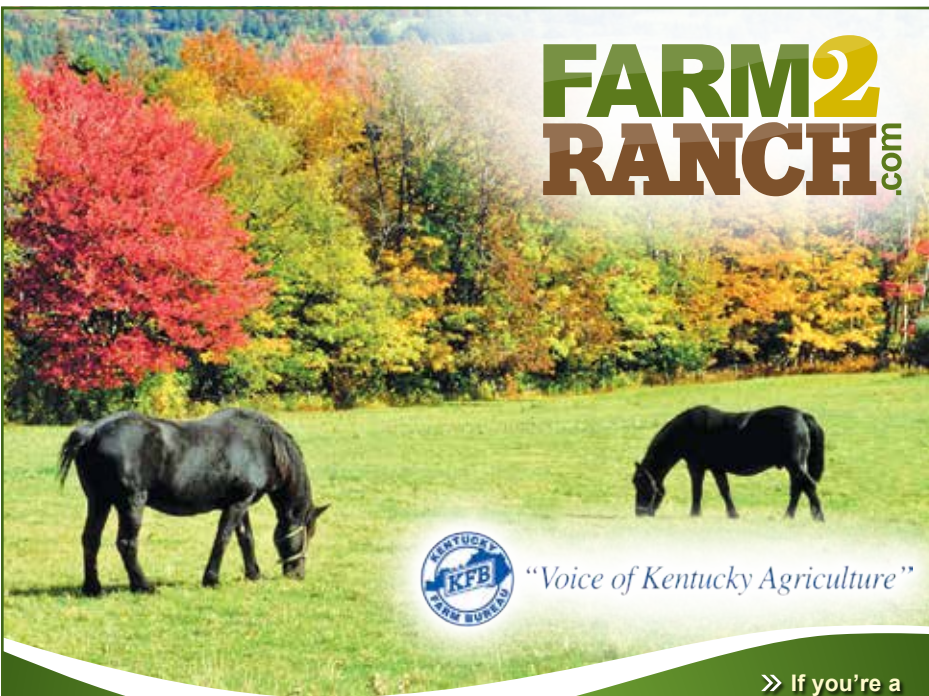
U.S. Quarterly Livestock Prices



Soybean & Soybean Meal Comparison
Owensboro Cash Prices



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CANDID CONVERSATION



Chris Pierce and family

KFB Candid Conversation presents a discussion about the topical issues facing the agricultural industry and rural communities in a question and answer format. In this column, Chris Pierce, a grain producer from Pulaski County, discusses ways to remain sustainable on the farm and how international trade affects his operation.

Would you share with our readers a little about your farming operation?

We farm in the counties north of Lake Cumberland; Pulaski, Casey, Russell, and Wayne Counties. Our Farming operation was founded in 2007 with 493 acres. We now grow crops on 5981 acres. We are a never-till operation that used cover crops in a soils health system on 98 percent of our acres in the fall of 2017.

What are some of the keys to being successful on the farm in today's economic times?

Crop insurance is a key risk management tool and maintaining a good record keeping system is a very important part of decision making. We have no control over weather and markets but we do have control over spending. Budget building and sensitivity analysis is a key to determining return on investment and it's important to know your fixed cost structure.

How important is the trade dollar to farm families?

We are a net exporter of agricultural commodities in the U.S. and farmers are very dependent on the trade dollar. In meeting the needs of our farm families, and from a comfort standpoint, we need the revenue generated by our exported goods and that holds true for farms of all sizes. We produce more than we consume by sizable amounts. However, that is not true in other parts of the world. While the trade dollar is important to our farm families and rural communities, I think it's just as important to get what we produce on the farm to those families in other countries who depend on the American farmer to be successful.

At a time when farmers are concerned about issues such as tariffs and low commodity prices, what kind of advice would you offer to those seeking to stay on the farm?

Staying on the farm during these times of low commodity prices is not easy. The idea of entering into an enterprise with a low probability of profit is defeating mentally and emotionally. As farmers, we are marathon runners not sprinters. We have to look at the long-term and farming is a local business. You cannot get out and back in without losing confidence from the community. Look to manage costs. Fixed cost management is critical. Family living expenses can be reviewed. Be honest with yourself when building enterprise and whole budgets and remember, the worst person you can lie to is yourself.

In your opinion, how important are the local family farms to the overall economy in this state and across the country?

Because of what and how well we produce at the local level, it benefits all consumers. We are efficient and a large group of homogenous producers and I think our farm products help to keep food costs low and help validate disposable income for all families across the country. Having such low

food costs allows us to have money for other things. But, I believe rural economies live and die by the state of family farms. As disposable incomes drop at the farm level, rural businesses feel the pain first and rural infrastructure such as utilities and municipal services are at risk under the threat of farm income loss.

How important is it to foster new trade agreements?

We need leadership that will foster new trade agreements. These agreements need to be fair, offering opportunities to working class people in America. They need to be balanced not to exact

price inflation on consumers. Trade agreements should not limit the access of our agricultural products to the world consumer. We consume four percent of the world's food supply here in the U.S. but American farmers produce over 20 percent of the world food supply. Agriculture is the most trade dependent industry in America. We want to be good stewards and we want to see people benefit from our abundance. As farmers, we just ask for a fair return for our families and the security to keep up our leg in the marathon.



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KFB MARKETBASKET SURVEY SHOWS INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES FOR SECOND STRAIGHT QUARTER

After two years of slight quarterly declines in food prices, the most recent Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) Marketbasket Survey indicates a food-cost increase for a second straight quarter.

The survey, taken four times each year, price-checks 40 basic food items throughout the state in an effort to gauge current food-price trends. Since the end of 2016, surveyed food items had dropped by a total of \$3.79 or just over three percent.

That trend seems to have come to an end, at least for the first half of 2018. After a first quarter increase of 1.35 percent, the most recent survey shows a 2.19 percent jump. The total price of all 40 items came to \$118.26.

The latest Consumer Price Index report from May noted little movement

nationally in most food categories over the last several months. There was an unadjusted, 12-month period increase of 1.2 percent in the all-food category. Food-at-home indices indicated a .2 percent decline for the month of May.

Specifically, the CPI noted, "The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs declined 0.7 percent, while the fruits and vegetables index fell 0.3 percent in May after increasing 1.0 percent in April. The indexes for other food at home, and dairy and related products also declined."

Marketbasket Survey specifics:

These second quarter increases were spread out across all the surveyed food categories including, beef, pork, poultry, dairy, fruits and vegetables, and grains. The largest category increase came in pork products with a rise of 4.09 percent, followed by poultry with an increase of 3.69 percent. All other categories were at or below the two percent mark. The largest single item increase was attributed to a 10-pound bag of Idaho potatoes, which rose by \$.55 followed by whole smoked ham prices, which rose \$.46 per pound.

"Even though we are seeing small increases for the first two quarters of 2018, it should be pointed out that the surveyed food items are still below 2016 prices at the same time of year by nearly 1.6 percent," said KFB Commodity

Division Director Joe Cain. "In the case of pork and poultry increases, we saw pork prices drop by nearly four percent at the end of 2017 and poultry prices fell during the first quarter of this year. I think the shifts we are seeing now can be attributed to normal market fluctuations as opposed to any long-term changes in the market."

Agricultural Economics in Food Prices:

Whether or not U.S. grocery prices fluctuate from one quarterly survey to the next, Kentuckians and all Americans continue to enjoy some of the lowest food prices in the world. Shoppers in the U.S. spend only about seven percent of their disposable income on food each year. Those costs remain far lower than any other country in the world thanks to many of the agricultural efficiencies utilized in America. Today the average U.S. farmer produces enough food and fiber to provide for about 154 people – a significant jump from an average of 19 people per farmer back in 1940.

Yet while more food is now being produced on less land, the farmer's share of the retail food dollar in America is down. According to the USDA's Food Dollar Series, a farmer earns less than 15 cents per dollar spent on food, which is the lowest amount since the Food Dollar series began, and down significantly from the 31 cents earned in 1980.

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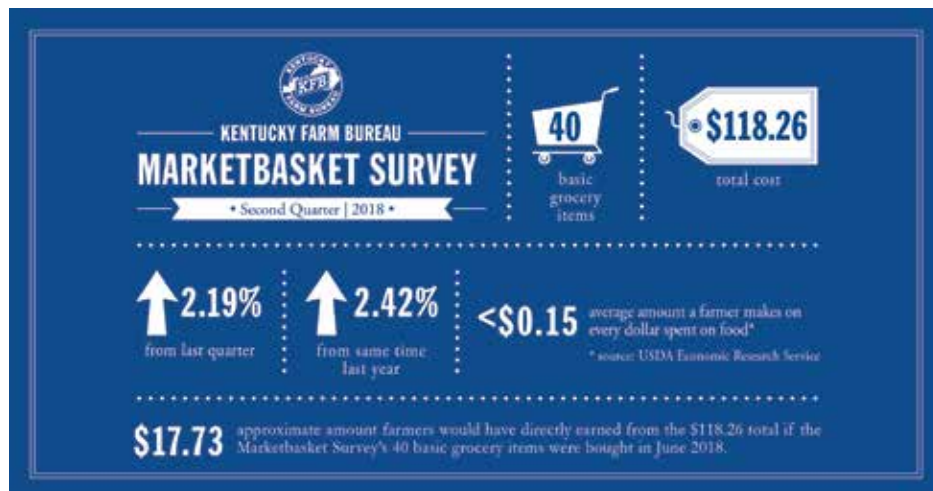
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Hartford		270-993-6632
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Madisonville	brumfieldfarmmarket.com	270-821-2721
CARDWELL FAMILY FARM		
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Elizabethtown	crawfordpumpkins.com	270-505-5600
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Somerset		606-382-5214
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Horse Cave		270-786-1663
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Down the Backroads

By Tim Thornberry

Of all the lessons I learned from my parents, the most important was recognizing the value in being kind to others and showing common courtesy. It was unacceptable, in our house, to do otherwise.

Phrases like “Yes Sir and Yes Ma’am” were common. “Thank you” was expected when applicable, as was “May I help you with that?”

And while saying the words was one thing, showing courtesy to others through our acts was also expected; things like holding a door for someone; taking the grocery cart back to the store instead of leaving it loose in the parking lot; offering a seat to another who was standing.

All these examples may sound like

“no-brainers” and simple, but learning and practicing small acts of kindness and courtesy seems to be difficult for some people these days.

As I get older, I find myself noticing the lack of common courtesy around me in public and in our digital world.

Don’t get me wrong; I know there are plenty of kind people who still exists, but unfortunately, they are often overshadowed by those who have either forgotten how to be considerate, or they never learned it.

And you don’t even have to step out of your house to see it. All you have to do is watch one of the many news programs on television when two guests with opposite opinions, on any given issue, square off in a frenzy of words

and allegations with one trying to talk over another. I find myself not really understanding either point after watching one of these shouting matches.

As a young person, following the rules set forth by my mom and dad, I discovered by extending a hand in kindness or friendship, speaking that kind word, and giving that opportunity to another, it made me feel good about myself; gave me self-worth.

In times of debate, I found I had a better chance of getting my point across or at least heard, if I offered a bit of compassion to my “opponent.”

It doesn’t cost you anything to say, “good morning” to someone on your way to work and it’s not labor intensive to offer a smile to a stranger.

I will say this, in practicing what my parents preached, now, when I come across rudeness I try to be kind in its wake. But occasionally I will find myself wanting to retaliate in some form or fashion. The older I get the more often happens.

For instance, I recently walked into my favorite sandwich shop expecting the person behind the counter to say something like, “What can I get for you today?” Instead this person just looked at me and raised his eyebrows and hands as if he were saying, “What do you want?”

“I quickly responded by leaning in and saying, “You’re supposed to say, ‘How can I help you?’”

The man behind the counter found no humor in my remark but I did manage to get my sandwich.

My point is this, I think the world would operate more efficiently if we all treated each other with respect, kindness, courtesy, and in the case of the sandwich shop man, a little common sense, even when we disagree.

I’m certain that practicing acts of kindness still goes a long way in how other people see us, and perhaps more importantly, how we see ourselves, as we make our way down the backroads.



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