

Kentucky

F A R M • B U R E A U • N E W S



**KFB NEWS EXCLUSIVE:
USDA Under Secretary McKinney
Discusses International Trade**

**Grant County Agriculture
Students Talk Turkey, Literally**

**KFB Advisory Committees:
Continuing a Long Tradition
of Advocacy**



NOVEMBER 2020



Heard the rumblings? Now we insure motorcycles.

Kentuckians have long known Kentucky Farm Bureau as their hometown provider of home and auto insurance. But did you know that we now have great rates on coverage for motorcycles, too? Plus, we offer numerous ways to save you money, including our multi-policy discount if you're already a Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance policyholder. To find out more, call your local KFB agent or visit us online at kyfb.com today.

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU



INSURANCE

BIG ON COMMITMENT.®



CONTENTS

President's Column	3
Comment Column	5
KFB Advisory Committees: Continuing a Long Tradition of Advocacy	6
Kentucky Farm Bureau's Vision 100 Committee Moving Forward	10
A Time for Giving	12
Crop Update from National Agricultural Statistics Service, Kentucky Office	13
KFB NEWS EXCLUSIVE: USDA Under Secretary Ted McKinney Discusses International Trade	16
Talking Trade: New Markets A Must	18
Markets	20
Grant County Agriculture Students Talk Turkey, Literally	22
American Farm Bureau's 102 nd Convention Goes Virtual	24
Words of Encouragement	25
Candid Conversation	26
Organizations Partner to Combat the Digital Divide by Launching Searchable Wi-Fi Map for Needed Broadband Connections	28
Down the Backroads	30

Cover photo by Tim Thornberry and Jaclyn Melcher. An autumn ride down the backroads in Franklin County.

Kentucky Farm Bureau News is published ten times per year. Combined issues for December-January and June-July are sent to all members. The remaining eight issues go to regular members. Bulk postage rate paid at Lebanon Junction, Ky. Changes in address should be mailed to KFB Communications Division, PO Box 20700, Louisville, Ky. 40250.

All advertising accepted subject to publisher's approval. Advertisers must assume liability of content of their advertising. For rates and information call 1.800.798.2691

President's Column



IT'S ANNUAL MEETING TIME

It's hard to believe that one short year ago we were celebrating Kentucky Farm Bureau's (KFB) 100th anniversary at our annual meeting. Much has happened over the past year, to say the least, because of COVID-19.

With that said, we will be making several changes to this year's annual gathering, from the way we conduct breakout sessions and business meetings, to how we offer meals, to the method in which we host events honoring many of our KFB members for their 2020 achievements.

But a meeting we will have as we gather together once again to conduct the business of KFB, and to celebrate the accomplishments we have made throughout the year despite the uncertainty we have all faced.

One of the things that makes this organization so unique – and so successful – is our grassroots way of operating. This serves as the very foundation of this organization, and thanks to the foresight of those who founded KFB, this process has brought us through difficult times before.

The annual meeting is a part of that process and certainly a time to be diligent in our efforts to conduct the business of KFB and to hear from our members about issues and priorities. And it's because of the work being done at the local, county level we are able to stand together for the betterment of our organization, our agriculture industry, local communities, and the state, as a whole.

The efforts made locally to advocate for the very industry that sustains us, enables KFB to move forward with policy and priorities that will serve us in the coming year.

We rely on our volunteer members who work tirelessly each and every day to stand strong on these issues that affect farm families and rural communities all across the Commonwealth as they make their voices heard.

In doing so collectively, we have become one of the largest state Farm Bureaus in the country, which gives us a seat at the table when it comes to advocating for agricultural issues at all levels of government.

If the circumstances caused by the coronavirus have taught the world anything, it is we cannot survive without the essential work of our farm families. No matter what situations we face, we are still farming, and because of that determination made by all who have ever planted a seed or raised an animal, KFB will be equally determined to support our farm families in any way we can.

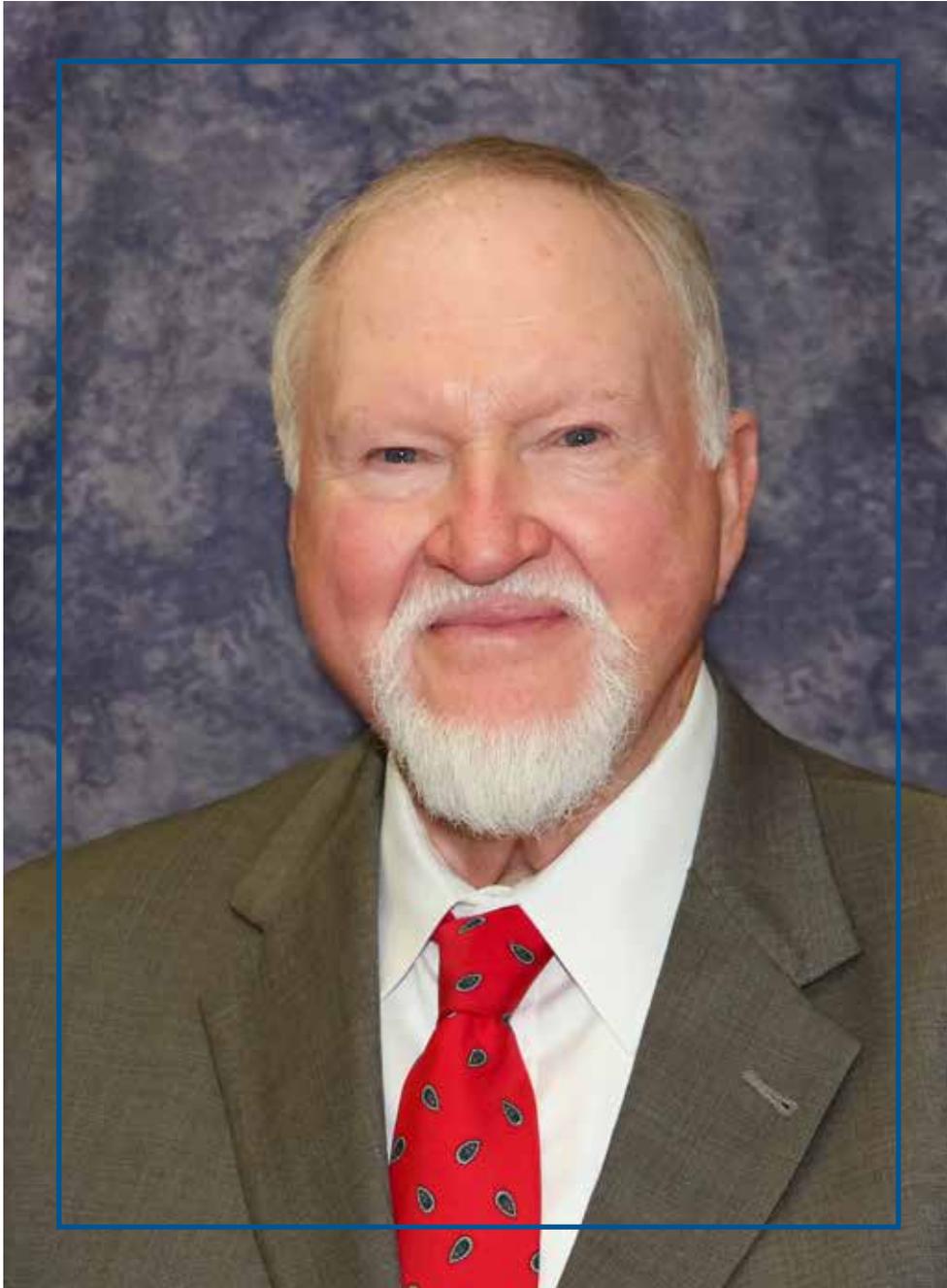
Our hope is that this annual meeting will be enjoyable and beneficial to all who attend, while observing the rules and regulations in place to keep us safe. But we encourage members to be mindful of how important their efforts are to this organization and this industry we love so much.

This annual meeting is important, and I appreciate all who are planning to be a part of it – whether in person or via digital means – as many of the sessions and events will be livestreamed.

We look forward to a brighter 2021 and know that the policy and priorities we take away from this annual meeting will serve us well in moving forward as the Voice of Kentucky Agriculture.

Mark Haney, President
Kentucky Farm Bureau

In Loving Memory



Carroll Amyx

Kentucky Farm Bureau State Director 2008-2020

March 27, 1942 - October 16, 2020

Kentucky Farm Bureau celebrates the life of a devoted husband, father, grandfather, educator, farmer, and friend. Your dedication to this organization will never be forgotten.



Kentucky Farm Bureau is a grassroots organization dedicated to serving our membership family and their communities. As the Voice of Agriculture, we identify problems, develop solutions, promote economic success, and enhance the quality of life for all.

KFB OFFICERS

- Mark HaneyPresident
- Eddie Melton 1st Vice President
- Sharon Furches2nd Vice President
- Drew GrahamExecutive Vice President

KFB DIRECTORS

- Glenn Howell Fulton
- Sharon Furches Murray
- Kelly Thurman.....Livermore
- Eddie MeltonSebree
- Mary Kate Kordes Central City
- Larry Thomas..... Elizabethtown
- Pat HendersonIrvington
- Ray Allan Mackey Elizabethtown
- Larry Clark Greensburg
- Scott Davis.....Tompkinsville
- Scott Travis Cox’s Creek
- Randy Chrisman Lawrenceburg
- Joe Paul Mattingly..... Raywick
- Mark Kinsey Crittenden
- Stewart Hughes.....Georgetown
- Mark Haney Nancy
- Kim McCoyBurkesville
- Victor Rexroat.....Russell Springs
- David L. CampbellStanford
- Terry Lawson Mt. Vernon
- Alex BarnettCynthiana
- Shane Wiseman Winchester
- David McGlone Grayson
- Carroll Amyx..... Campton
- Cloyce Hinkle Artemus
- Don MiniardBledsoe
- Marshall Coyle..... Owingsville
- Judy Hayden.....Calhoun
- John Henning..... Hardinsburg
- Roger Fannin Harlan
- Nancy Cox Lexington
- Brandon Davis Frankfort
- Greg Drake..... Bowling Green

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS

www.kyfb.com

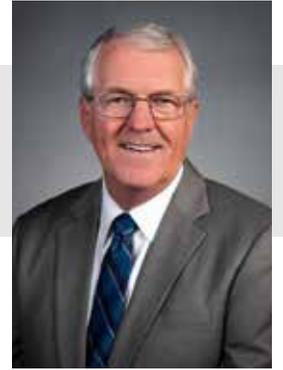
www.kyfb.com/federation/member-benefits

EditorTim Thornberry

Creative Director.....Meredith Davis Woods
..... Meredith Davis Design

AdvertisingCasey McNeal
..... Times-Citizen Communications
..... 800 798-2691 (ext. 334)

Comment Column



“I remember well the first meetings I attended as a Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) member more than 30 years ago. I was very impressed with

the process by which issues were brought up from the county Farm Bureaus and addressed as policy was created and priorities were formed.

I never thought about the history of this process at the time, but in order to get a better feel for how this organization began, all I have to do is look at the processes we have in place today. This model of grassroots advocacy has served KFB well since its beginning more than 100 years ago.

It is our volunteer members who decide what resolutions to bring forth, which ultimately could become policies and/or priorities.

And the process by which all that happens is one we take very seriously, as ideas that begin at the local level often end up as resolutions to be considered during the state annual meeting.

Many times, these discussions about agricultural and rural community matters start as simple conversations by volunteer members in their county board meetings.

If those county boards feel as though any given issue is important enough, it can be moved to the state level to be considered by the KFB Resolutions Committee, which convenes each November to review all yearly resolution proposals.

This group is elected by their respective district caucuses and is the body that decides what resolutions will be sent to the voting delegates during the state annual meeting.

From there, those agreed upon resolutions are then sent to the KFB Board of Directors who make the final decision on what becomes priority issues for the organization.

This procedure is the heart of this organization as it relates to the direction we take in serving as the Voice of Kentucky Agriculture.

But local Farm Bureaus are just one source for possible resolutions. The system of KFB Advisory Committees also lends to this process. All agriculture commodities, as well as rural community issues, in this state are served by one of 30 advisory committees created by KFB.

These committees, chaired by state board members, include volunteer members, leaders in the respective commodity sectors, and agricultural experts from across the state. In selecting members of these advisory committees, great care is taken to make sure those chairpersons have some tie to the industry the committee represents.

Along with discussing issues related to these commodities, the committee members also pass along their resolution recommendations.

Adopting resolutions is important because it literally creates new policy, changes existing policy, or eliminates policy viewed as no longer relevant.

Each year we will see approximately 800 to 1,000 different resolutions, each of which are reviewed. While it can be quite a task to get through all those proposals, it’s important that each is discussed so a sound decision can be made on every one.

My hope is that one day in the future, whoever may be sitting in my position will also see the dedication our local volunteer members have made to this organization through the years and the efforts that have been made to create our policy and priority issues – from the very beginning.

Eddie Melton, First Vice President
Kentucky Farm Bureau



KFB Advisory Committees are a traditional way of staying connected to agricultural and rural issues.

KFB Advisory Committees: Continuing a Long Tradition of Advocacy

While the exact date of when the very first Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) advisory committee took place is not known, there are records to indicate this process – in some form – began in 1920 following the founding of the organization in 1919.

That began a traditional way of staying connected to issues by virtue of selected committees, which ultimately led to what are now known as advisory committees, representing all agricultural sectors present in the state. That process has served to inform members and bring forth recommendations for each respective sector.

Through the years, committees have been added as needed, including several that deal with rural community issues, organizational matters, and communications, to name a few.

In all, there are 30 different KFB advisory committees. Each one is chaired by a KFB state board director or someone from leadership and is comprised of members who have some type of relationship with the represented sector. Ex officio members also play an important role in advisory committees and usually include state ag leaders and commodity experts.

The task for each committee is to meet at least once a year for a discussion of current events and issues that are affecting the respective sector. The committees will also review current KFB policy and make recommendations that will be moved to the KFB Resolutions Committee for consideration.

The role of the Resolutions Committee is to review the resolutions offered by local county Farm Bureaus and the various advisory committees.

Eddie Melton, KFB First Vice President, said this structure of committees is one of the factors that makes KFB a strong organization.

“Our advisory committees are just one of the reasons I think we are as strong of an organization as we are,” he said. “The dedication these committee members have is second to none, as they take seriously the work they are doing to make their

“The dedication these committee members have is second to none, as they take seriously the work they are doing to make their respective areas stronger.”

Eddie Melton

respective areas stronger.”

Melton emphasized the importance of members having that connection to the commodities represented by each advisory committee.

“These people have a direct connection to their respective committee sectors and are involved every day in some capacity,” he said. “In doing so, they can make solid recommendations and propose sound resolutions in order to make each commodity better.”

Melton noted that many of the committee members are also serving in leadership roles in their individual communities.

“Many of our committee members are playing important leadership roles in their hometowns,” he said. “Whether it’s in their local Farm Bureaus, their local governments, their churches, as well as other community activities, the leadership skills that they already possess helps to guide our advisory committees. I think when you put a room full of community and agricultural leaders together the outcome can only be positive.”

Each year at the conclusion of the KFB annual meeting, the organization’s leadership team gets together to select the coming year’s advisory committee members. Melton said it is a long process but one that is taken very seriously when making these selections.

“We look at the committees and draw from those existing members and people we have heard from throughout the year, who have voiced their willingness to serve on a committee,” he said. “This is an important process we don’t take lightly in getting the right people to the right place, at the right time.”

KFB President Mark Haney said the organizations advisory committees are a vital extension of the agriculture industry in Kentucky.

“One of the things we enjoy in this state is the ability to work together as an industry to make agriculture the best it can be,” he said. “Whether it is a commodity group, government leaders, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, or our system of universities, we all work together for common goals, and many of the people involved in these organizations are also active within our advisory committees. And I think that makes us unique and very successful in our advocacy efforts.”

0% FINANCING* CASH BACK OPTIONS AND MORE!

Value BONANZA

During this year's Value Bonanza sales event, there are more ways to save, including **0% FINANCING***, **CASH BACK AND MORE** on select New Holland products. You'll find the best savings of the year on the New Holland tractor and equipment you've had your eye on. But these offers won't last long—Value Bonanza ends December 31, 2020—so hurry in today or visit nhoffers.com



NEW HOLLAND AGRICULTURE **NEW HOLLAND** CONSTRUCTION **125 YEARS** New Holland

HOPKINSVILLE
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-844-3918
www.hragripower.com

MAYFIELD
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-455-4747
www.hragripower.com

CNH INDUSTRIAL CAPITAL
*For commercial use only. Customer participation subject to credit qualification and approval by CNH Industrial Capital America LLC. See your participating New Holland dealer for details and eligibility requirements. Not all customers or applicants may qualify for this rate or term. Depending on model, a down payment may be required. Offer good through December 31, 2020, at participating New Holland dealers in the United States. CNH Industrial Capital America LLC standard terms and conditions will apply. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice. Taxes, freight, set-up, delivery, additional options or attachments not included in price. © 2020 CNH Industrial America LLC. All rights reserved. CNH Industrial Capital and New Holland are trademarks registered in the United States and many other countries, owned by or licensed to CNH Industrial N.V., its subsidiaries or affiliates.

HARVEST HAY THE VERMEER WAY



FORAGE SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR CATTLE OPERATION.

When it comes to hay and forage, harvest the Vermeer way. We've been leading the industry for more than 70 years by offering innovative products and features that are built with heavy-duty components to be durable and versatile on your operation. Call or visit us to find out why farmers and ranchers just like you are switching to Vermeer.



CYNTHIANA
HAYDON EQUIPMENT INC.
859-234-4621
800-649-7683

GLASGOW
J & J SALES INC.
800-669-5480
www.jjsales.com

OWENSBORO
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-264-1504
www.hragripower.com

RUSSELLVILLE
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-264-2474
www.hragripower.com

2020 Candidates for KFB Director

District 1

Glenn Howell
809 State Route 781 N, Fulton

District 2

Kelly Thurman
643 Barrett Hill Road, Livermore

District 3

Pat Henderson
2261 Hwy 2202, Irvington

Mitchel Logsdon
599 Shady Lane Church Road,
Munfordville

District 4

Larry Clark
1153 Robert Landis Road, Greensburg

District 5

Matt Gajdzik
1330 Mulberry Pike, Shelbyville

District 6

Mark Kinsey
160 South Main Street, Crittenden

District 7

Kim McCoy
161 Kim McCoy Road, Burkesville

Victor Rexroat
821 Rexroat- Butcher Road,
Russell Springs

Tim Goodlett

1683 Poplar Hill Road, Liberty

District 8

David Campbell
2745 KY Highway 78, Stanford

District 9

Shane Wiseman
5826 Ecton Road, Winchester

District 10

Michael Staton
608 Vance Road, Salt Lick

Tyler Ferguson
4972 Ky Route 1092, Flatgap

District 11

Cloyce W. Hinkle
P.O. Box 101, Artemus

This candidates' list does not necessarily note all those individuals running for District Director but are those who asked to have their names placed in the KFB News.



FARM BUREAU MEMBERS SAVE UP TO \$5,000*

Farm Bureau[®]
Member Benefits

We're here to help you on the homestead. Farm Bureau members save up to \$5,000 on new Cat[®] machines,* including backhoe loaders, wheel loaders, compact track loaders and more. Plus, get up to \$250 off select Cat attachments* for your farm. Visit www.cat.com/farmbureau for more information.

LET'S DO THE WORK.™

*These offers apply to new Cat machines and select new Cat attachments purchased by trade association members or event attendees until the earlier of occur of December 31, 2020 or when the program limit has been reached. Limit of one credit per new Cat machine and one credit per new attachment purchased but this offer may be applied to multiple machines or attachments. Offer available on new quotes only. This offer is not valid for any discounts greater than 20% off the Suggested Consumer List Price, including any other offers, programs or discounts. Contact your participating Cat dealer for details and to see the specific discount pricing available per model. Subject to credit approval and membership verification. Valid only at participating Cat dealer locations in the U.S. and Canada. Subject to change without prior notice. Not valid with other offers, programs or discounts unless otherwise specified in writing. Limitations and restrictions apply. Program Reference ID: STR20AFB

© 2020 Caterpillar. All Rights Reserved. CAT, CATERPILLAR, LET'S DO THE WORK, their respective logos, "Caterpillar Corporate Yellow," the "Power Edge" and "Modern Hex" trade dress, as well as corporate and product identity used herein, are trademarks of Caterpillar and may not be used without permission.





2021 AFBF YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS

COMPETITION AWARDS



The YF&R program helps young members shape their future and American agriculture through leadership development and personal growth opportunities. Three competitions enable members to showcase their leadership experience, communication skills and successful business plans as they compete against the best of the best from each state Farm Bureau.

As part of the YF&R competitions, the top four competitors in the Achievement Award, Discussion Meet and Excellence in Agriculture areas will receive:

1ST PLACE **A New Ford Vehicle**
(up to a value of \$35,000) and paid registration to the AFBF FUSION Conference in Portland, Oregon courtesy of Ford.

2ND PLACE **Case IH Farmall 50A Tractor**
courtesy of Case IH.

3RD PLACE **Case IH 40" Combination Roll Cabinet & Top Chest**
and \$500 Case IH parts card, courtesy of Case IH, a **\$2,500 Investing in Your Future cash prize**, courtesy of American Farm Bureau Insurance Services, Inc. **plus \$1,850 of Stanley Black & Decker merchandise**, courtesy of Stanley Black & Decker.

4TH PLACE **Case IH 40" Combination Roll Cabinet & Top Chest**
and a \$500 Case IH parts card, courtesy of Case IH.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU'S VISION 100 COMMITTEE *MOVING FORWARD*

Committee members looking toward the future with excitement and a new initiative

Last year, Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) created the Vision 100 Committee at the direction of KFB President Mark Haney. This committee, comprised of KFB volunteer leaders from the local level, as well as staff from both the Federation and the Insurance Company, was convened to help guide strategic planning for the future of the entire organization.

"After celebrating KFB's Centennial in 2019, we felt there needed to be efforts made that would serve to help guide this organization into our next century of existence and advocacy," Haney said. "In recognizing this need, we have brought together a diverse group of local leaders and state staff, who are poised to help move KFB into the future."

KFB Second Vice President Sharon Furches co-chairs the committee along with KFB Organization Division Director Matthew Ingram.

Furches said despite all the uncertainty that members have faced this year, the need to look toward the future is paramount in ensuring the success of the organization.

"Leadership knew we had to be forward thinking, as we moved into the future, through strategic planning," she said. "In doing so, it wouldn't be just about looking back to see where some of our strengths are, but we knew we had to find ways to reach our members where they are currently, and find more ways to be the most effective in today's world."

Thinking in those terms, Furches also said a lot of thought went into finding the right people to be involved in the Vision 100 Committee.

"The majority of the 22-member team that makes up Vision 100 are Farm Bureau volunteer leaders who are at a stage in their lives where they are looking toward

the future in Farm Bureau and in their own farming operations, as well as in their professional and personal lives," she said. "So, we felt they had a really clear vision of what would serve this organization best in the years to come."

Ingram said each of the members of Vision 100 brings a unique perspective based upon their experiences in Farm Bureau.

"Anytime you can take a fresh look at some of the things we're doing, I think it brings excitement to what we will do in the future," he said. "Collectively we've got the framework to accomplish a lot of work in the coming years, as we focus our efforts and our interest in specific ways."

Ingram added that communicating the organization's mission, purpose, and the agriculture industry, in general, through the committee will be of value for those members, now and in the future.

"We'll be able to work as an organization, to better equip our members to serve as the voice of agriculture, because of the work of this Vision 100 committee," he said.

The committee has wasted little time in getting to work, having already selected four key goals from KFB's overall strategic plan to work toward.

"In our discussions about how to achieve these goals, we recognized a gap in available programs, especially following the Young Farmer program for both men and women," Furches said. "We feel as though there is a period of years where these members may feel they have no place to go within the organization. And while it's different in every county and every district, we want to provide an opportunity for them to keep their interest in and become advocates for KFB. In doing that, it will keep this organization vital and moving forward."

A New Program Emerges

In recognizing this gap, the Vision 100 team has brought forth a new program that will specifically be geared toward members between the ages of 36 and 49 called Generation Bridge. And while the specifics that go into any new program like this are still being finalized, the idea of such a new project is very exciting, Furches explained.

"I have left every meeting feeling totally refreshed and enthused for this organization and for agriculture in general because of the committee members leading this initiative," Furches said. "They have excitement, they're not afraid to use social media, they embrace the use of technology to move forward in any way they can, and they're not afraid to offer their opinions on issues. Ultimately, we want to help to train them to do that in the most effective way."

"We knew we had to find ways to reach our members where they are currently, and find more ways to be the most effective in today's world."

Sharon Furches

Kyle Kelly, Director of Local Affairs, is the KFB staff person helping to spearhead the Generation Bridge initiative. He said the excitement the entire Vision 100

Committee has shown in bringing forth ideas has been nothing short of amazing.

"The members of this committee represent a diverse, cross section of people within KFB who have so many good ideas about the future of our industry and for the organization," he said. "It's exciting to be a part of it as we move forward with new initiatives."

Kelly said Generation Bridge was born from the collective discussions of committee members and is indicative of how dedicated they will be when creating and implementing new concepts for KFB's future.

"The members of this committee hit the ground running from day-one and Generation Bridge is just the beginning of what can be accomplished by the Vision 100 team," he said. "As we have moved forward to put in place the structure and specifics of this new initiative, they have carefully considered the needs of this particular demographic and how best

to keep them involved as leaders for our ag industry, for Farm Bureau, and their communities."

Ingram emphasized that Generation Bridge will also provide an opportunity for those involved to further their leadership skills.

"These are skills that will benefit the organization, not just today, but it in years to come because those leaders will continue to stay engaged," he said. "Perhaps that will be as county leadership or maybe even district or state leadership. But part of the goals is to help create an opportunity for these members to further their leadership development skills and enhance those traits that'll help them serve the organization really in whatever capacity that they'll be in."

As Generation Bridge takes shape, Furches said there will be a heavy emphasis on training its members to be strong advocates at all levels.

"I believe there will be a really heavy

emphasis on advocacy and ways to train them to be most effective whether they are talking with consumers, the local media, or our state and national legislators," she said. "At the end of the day, this organization will be stronger because of this new program. As we train these members in a new way, we will keep their interest in KFB and give them an avenue to champion agricultural issues."

Haney said more information about Generation Bridge will be forthcoming soon.

"While we have a few details to complete before we have an official rollout of Generation Bridge, I can say this is one of the most exciting initiatives that we have undertaken as an organization in a long time," he said. "I have no doubts about its success and I know this is just the beginning of the many accomplishments that will be made by the Vision 100 Committee."

GRASSROOTS INSURANCE EDUCATION ADVOCACY LEADERSHIP SERVICE



In Kentucky, being grassroots is fertile ground for success.

With more than 70,000 family farms in Kentucky, agriculture is a vital part of the Commonwealth's culture, values and economy. Every year, farm families work together at the grassroots level to identify shared challenges and achieve common goals. Kentucky Farm Bureau reflects these challenges and goals in our policies, and we're proud to advocate for farmers across the state in everything we do. Why Farm Bureau? Because Kentucky's success depends on improved farm income, better economic opportunities, and enhanced quality of life for all.



KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU
KFB 100 YEARS
EST. 1919

A Time for Giving

Montgomery County Farm Bureau food giveaway helps community members during this special time of the year

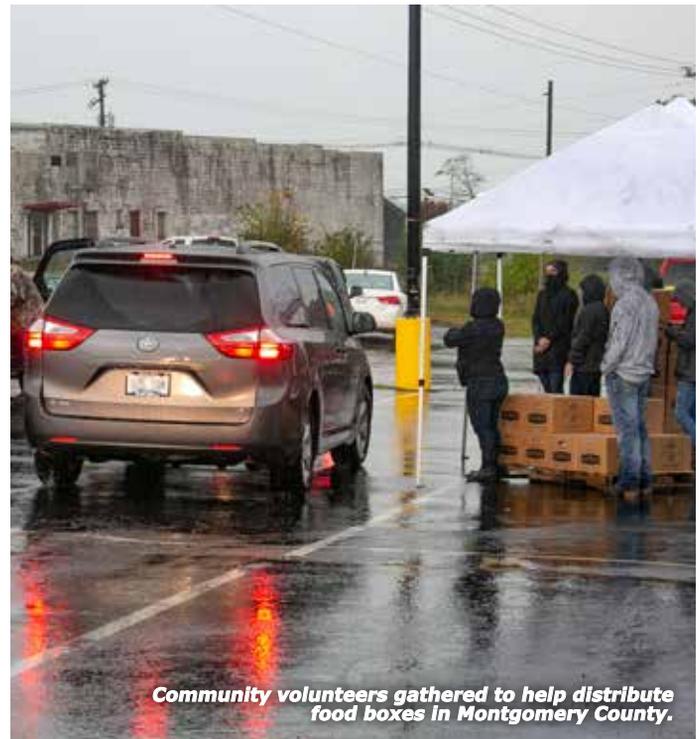
Despite a rainy day, Montgomery County Farm Bureau (MCFB) members followed through with their plans to get nutritious food in the hands of the community through two special events. The first event was the Farmers to Families Food Box initiative, which began thanks to the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). The other was through the purchase of a local steer which was processed into hamburger and given to the local food bank coalition.

MCFB President Byron Amburgey said the two initiatives truly became community events.

"In getting a group of volunteers from here in the county to come together to help with all the distribution, it really became a community project," he said. "We consider them all family and friends, and they really helped make this happen. We can't thank them enough for giving their time to help those in need. It really is a time for giving back to the community."

Amburgey's wife Crystal, a MCFB Insurance agent, helped to coordinate the logistics of the projects at the local level. She said with the help of the Kentucky Dairy Development Council (KDDC), the non-profit agency that helped coordinate CFAP food giveaways across the state, the food distribution plan came together.

"I contacted KDDC in July and asked if we could be put on the list and that we would love to have this project come to Montgomery County," Crystal said. "When the call came saying they had a truck available, we got our volunteers together and got the facility secured. We have been so glad to do this and to



Community volunteers gathered to help distribute food boxes in Montgomery County.

be able to provide for the community."

She added that the beef giveaway, while different from the Food Box project, had the same intentions, getting good food out to those in need.

"Our local 4-H and FFA students have livestock projects during the year, and they were not able to have their annual show and sale, as they normally do," Crystal explained. "And since MCFB always donates to that, we decided to purchase a steer from one of the FFA students, have it processed into hamburger, and donate it to our local food pantry."

During the Food Box giveaway, more than 1,200 packs of food were moved thanks to a large collection of volunteers.

"We had our local FFA students, our county extension agent, several local board members, and many other businesspeople from the community show up early to help," Crystal said. "This was our first big event that we've done through our office in a while, and we wanted to do something to benefit the community. It's pretty exciting to see it all come together."

Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation Executive Vice President Drew Graham and his wife, Lorra, also showed up to lend their support during the Food Box giveaway. Graham said it is this type of local community activity that makes Farm Bureau so unique.

"While our organization is known as being a strong voice for agriculture, Farm Bureaus all across this state show up in big ways to help their communities with a variety of initiatives," he said. "The food giveaway events in Montgomery County are great examples of how involved KFB is at the local level and the commitment these members have for their hometowns."

Graham emphasized how dedicated MCFB members like Crystal and Byron Amburgey are in working with their community to make it better.

"The level of commitment our members have to causes like the events held in Montgomery County is remarkable," he said. "It gives me a great sense of pride to belong to an organization that gives back so much to local communities across this state."





Crop Update from National Agricultural Statistics Service, Kentucky Office

Record High Corn and Soybean
Yields Expected in Kentucky

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released its crop production report (recently) from the October Agricultural Yield Survey conducted at the beginning of the month. Based on October 1 conditions, the report showed Kentucky corn and soybean yields may be record highs. Kentucky's average corn yield was forecast at 181 bushels per acre, and soybeans were expected to yield 55 bushels per acres.

"Crop conditions were generally better than average for most of the season", said David Knopf, director of the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Office in Kentucky. "Soybeans rated as good and excellent reached 16 points above the five-year average in September, and corn conditions were similar. A majority of the corn crop has been harvested and over one-third of the soybeans have been harvested."

Corn production is forecast at 246 million bushels, down five percent from the September forecast and up slightly from the previous crop. Yield was estimated at 181 bushels per acre, unchanged bushels from last month and up 12 bushels from the 2019 level. If realized, it would break the record high yield of 178 bushels per acre set in 2017. Acres for harvest as grain were estimated at 1.36 million acres, down 90,000 acres from 2019. The U.S. corn production is forecast at 14.7 billion bushels, down one percent from the September forecast and up eight percent from 2019. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 178.4 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushels from last month and up 10.9 bushels from 2019. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 82.5 million acres, down one percent from

the September forecast and up one percent from 2019.

Soybean production for Kentucky is forecast at 101 million bushels, unchanged from the September forecast and up 30 percent from 2019. Yield was estimated at 55 bushels per acre, unchanged bushels from last month and up 9.0 bushels from a year ago. At 55 bushels per acre a new yield record would be set surpassing 53 bushels per acre in 2017. Acreage for harvest as beans was estimated at 1.84 million acres, up 150,000 acres from the previous year. U.S. soybean production is forecast at 4.27 billion bushels, down one percent from the September forecast and up 20 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 51.9 bushels per acre, unchanged bushels from last month and up 4.5 bushels from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 82.3 million acres, down one percent from the September forecast and up 10 percent from 2019.

Kentucky burley tobacco production is forecast at 68.4 million pounds, up 12 percent from the September forecast and down 12 percent from 2019. Yield was projected at 1,900 pounds per acre, up 200 pounds from last month and unchanged pounds from the 2019 crop. Harvested acreage was estimated at 36,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from last year's crop. For the burley producing states production is forecast at 79.7 million pounds, down 14 percent from last year. Burley growers plan to harvest 41,700 acres, down 14 percent from 2019. Yields were expected to average 1,911 pounds per acre, up one pound from last year.



Because protecting what's important is, well, important.

There are 120 counties in Kentucky, and a Kentucky Farm Bureau insurance agent in every single one of them. That means you get coverage on what's important to you — from farms and fishing boats to minivans and mobile homes — from someone who lives where you live and is part of your community. Why Farm Bureau? Because personal service from someone you know makes all the difference.



KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

EST. 1919

4900 PLANTER

ADVANCED, VERSATILE AND READY TO PLANT CORN

- Several fertilizer, drive, meter and attachment options
- Frame with 42° of flex and robust cast iron row units

CONTACT US TODAY TO LEARN MORE

BEECH GROVE
WARD IMPLEMENT COMPANY INC.
270-273-3206
www.wardimplementco.com

HOPKINSVILLE
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-844-3918
www.hragripower.com

RUSSELLVILLE
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-264-2474
www.hragripower.com



©2018 by Kinze Manufacturing Inc. All rights reserved.

PRECISION IS PERSONAL

Built heavy duty, to make light work of any job.



L Series 24.1-47.3 HP

Kubota Together we do more.

Call today to schedule a demo on the #1 selling compact tractor in the U.S. for over 10 years.*

- Four affordable models to choose from
- Performance-matched Kubota front loader
- Kubota diesel engine and gear or HST transmission
- Easy-to-use controls

CYNTHIANA
HAYDON EQUIPMENT INC.
859-234-4621
800-649-7683

GLASGOW
J & J SALES INC.
800-669-5480
www.jjsales.com

HOPKINSVILLE
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-844-3918
www.hragripower.com

MOREHEAD
THOMPSON TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT SALES, INC.
606-784-6461

MORGANFIELD
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-869-1421
www.hragripower.com

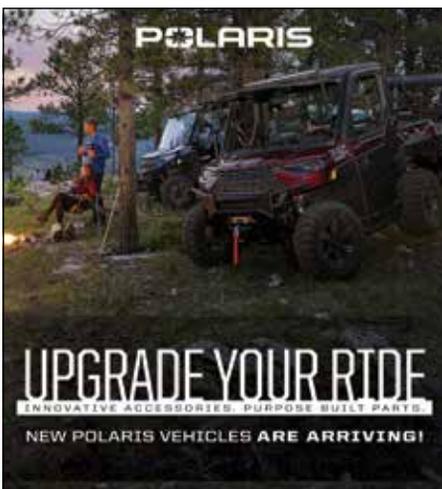
RUSSELLVILLE
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-264-2474
www.hragripower.com

SHELBYVILLE
JACOBI SALES INC.
800-730-2684
www.jacobisales.com

KubotaUSA.com

*Based on EDA tractor sales data of under 40 horsepower models from 2009 to 2019.
© Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2020. This material is for descriptive purposes only. Kubota disclaims all representations and warranties, express or implied, or any liability from the use of this material. For complete warranty, disclaimer, safety, incentive offer and product information, consult your local Dealer or go to KubotaUSA.com.

POLARIS



UPGRADE YOUR RIDE
INNOVATIVE ACCESSORIES. PURPOSE BUILT PARTS.
NEW POLARIS VEHICLES ARE ARRIVING!

GOING ON NOW!

DRY RIDGE
MARSHALL POWERSPORTS
859-824-9200
www.marshallpowersports.com

MIDDLESBORO
SHAKE AND BAKE MOTORSPORTS
606-248-5406
www.shakeandbakemotorsports.com

Terms and conditions apply. WARNING: Polaris off road vehicles can be hazardous to operate and are not intended for on-road use. Drive must be at least 16 years old with a valid driver's license to operate. Passengers, if permitted, must be at least 12 years old. All riders should always wear helmets, eye protection, and protective clothing. Always use seat belts and cab nets or doors (as equipped). Never engage in stunt driving and avoid excessive speeds and sharp turns. All riders should take a safety training course. Riding and alcohol/drugs don't mix. Call 800-342-3764 for additional information. Check local laws before riding on trails. ©2020 Polaris, Inc.

POLARIS

Farm Bureau members receive

\$750 BONUS CASH*

Luxury, style, performance. They all come together beautifully in the new Lincoln vehicles. And now, get \$750 Bonus Cash.*



2020 LINCOLN CORSAIR

FARM BUREAU
ADVANTAGE
How We're Driving Change.

Don't miss out on this offer. Visit LincolnFarmBureauAdvantage.com today!

THE LINCOLN MOTOR COMPANY

Program #37408 *Farm Bureau Bonus Cash is exclusively for active Farm Bureau members who are residents of the United States. Offer is valid through 1/4/21 for the purchase or lease of an eligible new 2019/2020/2021 model year Lincoln vehicle. This offer may not be used in conjunction with most other Lincoln Motor Company private incentives or AXZD-Plans. Some customer and purchase eligibility restrictions apply. Must be a Farm Bureau member for 30 consecutive days prior to purchase. Visit LincolnFarmBureauAdvantage.com or see your authorized Lincoln Dealer for qualifications and complete details.

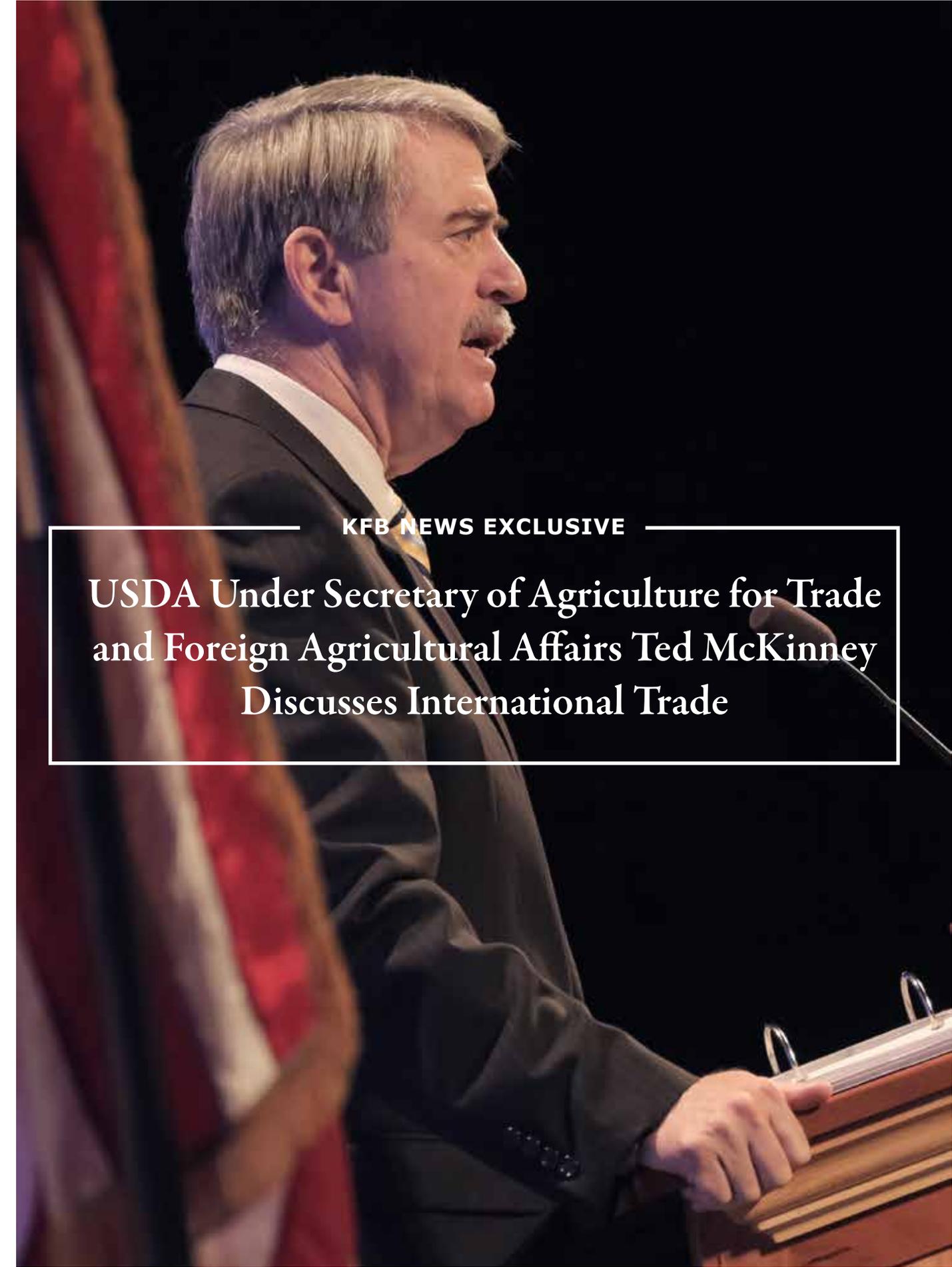
CORBIN
LEGACY LINCOLN
800-684-6103
legacyfordky.com

DANVILLE
STUART POWELL
LINCOLN
859-236-8917
stuartpowelllincoln.net

OWENSBORO
CHAMPION LINCOLN
270-684-1441
owensborolincoln.com

SOMERSET
ALTON BLAKLEY
LINCOLN
606-678-5181
altonblakleylincoln.com





KFB NEWS EXCLUSIVE

**USDA Under Secretary of Agriculture for Trade
and Foreign Agricultural Affairs Ted McKinney
Discusses International Trade**

In an exclusive question-and-answer interview, Under Secretary McKinney sheds light on the current international trade situation and some positive numbers related to agriculture trade so far this year.

KFB News: With international trade being so important to the U.S. agriculture industry, how significant do you think the current buying spree of agriculture commodities by China is to the industry?

Under Secretary McKinney: *The current sales to China are extremely significant. For both corn and soybean, export sales commitments (sales pending export plus shipments already made) for China are about 40 percent of our total export sales commitments for those two commodities. Pork sales to China are at record levels. China is now our seventh largest beef market, with January through August exports more than doubling from the same period in 2019. Many other products, including poultry products are steadily gaining market share as well.*

KFB News: Do you feel this increased buying will continue into the near future?

Under Secretary McKinney: *We certainly hope so, particularly for the near future. Many major U.S. commodities such as soybeans, corn, sorghum, pork, and tree nuts remain competitive on international markets, and we fully expect China to honor its Phase One trade commitments and continue to purchase its import needs from the United States.*

KFB News: Are there other countries that are also increasing their purchases of U.S. agricultural goods at this time?

Under Secretary McKinney: *Through the first eight months of the year, U.S. exports to China are up 13 percent (\$1.1 billion) from the same time period in 2019. There are bright spots*

elsewhere in the world as well -- including increased exports to emerging economies such as Vietnam, the Philippines, Colombia, Egypt, Taiwan, and Pakistan.

KFB News: What is your feeling about international trade, especially as it relates to agricultural commodities in the coming year?

Under Secretary McKinney: *As you know, 2020 has been an abnormal year with the global pandemic. Some supply chains were disrupted, and global consumers moved from eating meals at restaurants to eating many more meals at home. U.S. exporters were agile and responded to changing consumer demand, leaving them in a good position to expand exports in 2021. Additionally, new trade agreements with Canada, Mexico, and Japan will be fully in effect, which we expect to generate increased opportunities for U.S. exports.*

USDA's current export forecast for FY2021 is \$140.5 billion, a four percent increase from the FY2020 forecast. Much of next year's increased exports are expected from soybeans, coarse grains, and tree nuts. Our FY2021 forecast has Canada, Mexico, and China remaining our top three markets, with China providing a \$4.5 billion increase from the FY2020 estimate.

And importantly, our theme of "leave no stone unturned" has been readily adopted by the Foreign Agricultural Service, which is aggressively pursuing all export opportunities, large and small.



Under Secretary Ted McKinney and Kentucky Ag Commissioner Ryan Quarles held a Q&A session at a meeting with state agriculture leaders during a visit to the state in 2018. At left, he also addressed the state FFA Convention later the same day.

Talking Trade: New Markets a Must

As tough as 2020 has been, there have been some positive developments when it comes to international trade

As simplistic as some people may think life on the farm is, in today's modern era of production agriculture, simplistic is not really a word that is commonly used to describe the day-to-day operations for farm families.

And while navigating the current U.S. market environment, dodging weather events, and keeping up with continual advancements in technology, those in the agriculture industry have also had to become global economists, of sorts, in order to make decisions that come with each crop year.

But no one expected the year 2020 has turned out to be. Still farmers are farming, and selling, and making the most of what has been dealt to them. It would seem ironic that as tough as the economy has gotten for all sectors this year, farm families could be sitting on top of record yields and production as weather conditions played into their favor.

Those anticipated record harvest numbers for corn and soybean growers and some increases in grain prices are offering some glimmer of hope as 2021 gets closer.

The new marketing year has also seen a jump in trading, especially with China. But some caution should be taken before putting 2020 in the rear-view mirror.

Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) President Mark Haney said all

farm families are grateful to see export markets improve but warns of counting too much on one market.

"As much as we like to see ramped up trade with China, it is still critically important that we also explore other international markets and avoid the proverbial 'putting our eggs in one basket' situation," he said.

In regard to those large purchase promises made by China, American Farm Bureau Federation Chief Economist John Newton said the big question is whether or not the purchase commitments turn into actual shipments.

"If we actually see those sales materialize, it could go a long way to supporting prices at or above current levels," he said.

And while many factors go into any fluctuation in commodity prices, increased international trade could certainly help.

Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Dr. Ryan Quarles is currently serving as president of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture. He said it is critical that the United States continues to open up markets around the world so that American farmers can benefit from market growth.

"In just 2020 alone, we have new trade deals with Japan, China, Canada, Mexico, and have one in the works for the United Kingdom," he said. This year was supposed to be the year of



Caption

“It's important that as we grow markets here in America, that we look at what would happen if these trade agreements had not been negotiated. It benefits the Kentucky farmer when we're able to reduce tariffs and increase access in any country in the world.”

Ryan Quarles

international trade and agriculture, but obviously has been overshadowed by a global pandemic and its implications.”

However, Quarles notes that international trade continues to grow, and one of the major accomplishments related to trade in 2020 was the implementation of the U.S-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which revised the more than 25-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

“Last year, it was all hands on deck to get USMCA ratified,” he said. “This year, it's about moving forward and not losing any momentum getting it implemented.”

Quarles led the United States trade delegation during this year's tri-national accord, which is an annual summit between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico that focuses on agriculture trade.

He said having this USMCA in place put the country in a better position to tackle additional trade agreements.

“For example, the USMCA is the first trade agreement that has provisions relating to biotechnology and that builds some

momentum so that those sorts of provisions can be in other countries' trade agreements, as well,” he said. “With USMCA being successfully negotiated and now implemented, this creates an expectation with other countries that hopefully is replicated. We like to think of this as a new era of modern trade deals that benefit agriculture.”

Regarding the recent uptick in expected ag exports to China, Quarles said it's important to realize that despite heavy emphasis on China, there are other markets to work with.

“We're also looking at other countries, such as the Philippines, Indonesia, and even Latin American countries that are buying more American (products) every single day,” he said. “We also think it's important that as we grow markets here in America, that we look at what would happen if these trade agreements had not been negotiated. It benefits the Kentucky farmer when we're able to reduce tariffs and increase access in any country in the world.”



KFB Farming Footnote:*

Nationally, the United States exports about \$140 billion for all agricultural goods. According to the latest information from the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, in August 2020 alone, national ag exports totaled \$11,108,971,281. In Kentucky, ag exports are worth an estimated \$2.2 billion.

KFB President Mark Haney said these numbers are critical to the nation's agricultural industry.

“We cannot ignore the importance of the trade dollar to our farm families here, in Kentucky, and across this country,” he said. “We must continue to do all we can to ensure our farm products have a place in the world market. Our industry is depending on it.”

MARKETS

APPLE HARVEST APPLE HARVEST DOWN FROM 2019: APPLE CROP DROPS 3 PERCENT FROM 2019

This year's USDA forecast for the U.S. commercial apple crop is 10.65 billion pounds, down three percent from last year. Production is expected to be down in all reported states except for Oregon, a relatively small producer. The top apple state, Washington, expects a 7.4-billion-pound crop, down three percent from 2019. While lower apple supplies could put upward pressure on prices for 2020/21, a sluggish export market could have the opposite effect. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. retail apple prices for July-September averaged almost six percent below the same period in 2019. While USDA does not publish Kentucky's production (reduced this year due to freeze), we have many growers to provide you with locally produced apples and products. Many of these orchards are members of the KFB Certified Farm Market Program; learn more at kyfb.com/certified.

SOYBEAN OUTLOOK IS STRONG ON RECORD EXPORTS

In its October supply-demand update, USDA cut U.S. soybean production by 45 million bushels due to a large reduction in sown acreage. With strong sales to China, USDA raised its forecast of 2020/21 soybean exports by 75 million bushels to a record 2.2 billion, a huge 31 percent increase from 2019/20. Soybean export shipments were record large for the month of September. And delayed soybean planting in Brazil should extend the season where U.S. soybean exports remain competitive. Fewer beginning soybean stocks, less production and higher export demand are forecast to reduce season-ending soybean stocks for 2020/21 by 170 million bushels to 290 million. The tighter outlook led USDA to boost its forecast of the 2020/21 U.S. average farm price to \$9.80 per bushel from \$9.25 in the September report. By comparison, the 2019/20 average farm price was \$8.57. USDA also raised its 2020/21 average price forecasts for soybean meal (up \$20 to \$335 per short ton) and soybean oil (up 0.5 cent to 32.5 cents per pound). Soybean oil demand will remain robust as use in biodiesel grows by over three percent to 8.1 billion

pounds, representing 35 percent of domestic disappearance. Global soybean stocks continue to tighten as well at a forecasted 88.70 million metric tons, down from 93.75 in 2019/20 and 113.04 in 2018/19.

LIVE CATTLE AND BEEF IMPORTS UP IN 2020

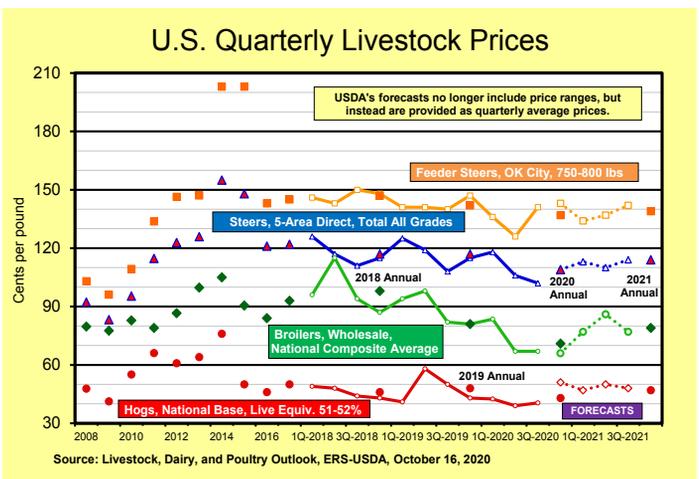
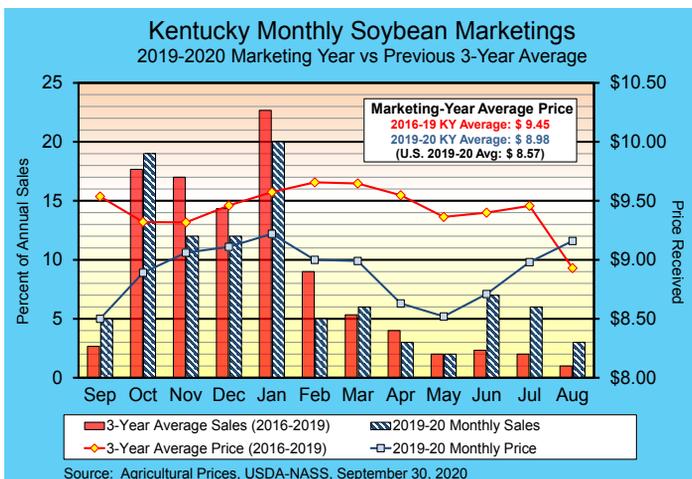
January-August 2020 imports of live cattle totaled 1.4 million head, 3.8 percent larger than the same

period a year ago. Cattle for immediate slaughter, which accounted for about 25 percent of total imports

and originate mostly from Canada, increased 6.7 percent compared with a year ago. Feeder cattle imports, accounting for about 74 percent of total cattle imports and come mostly from Mexico, increased 2.8 percent in the January-August period this year. Live cattle imports are small relative to the total number harvested in the U.S. annually. In 2019, commercial cattle and calf slaughter totaled 34.2 million head.

U.S. beef imports in August 2020 were 351 million pounds, up 32 percent from year-earlier levels.

The major U.S. beef suppliers, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and Mexico accounted for 76 percent of August's total beef imports. For August, New Zealand's shipments were the largest for the month since 2003 and Brazil's shipments were the largest since December 2008. Beef imports from Mexico during May-August set monthly records. The forecasts for 2020 third and fourth quarters are raised to 1,025 million pounds (+100 million from last month) and 800 million pounds (+75 million) on continued strong demand for processing-grade beef. Beef imports for 2020 are forecast at 3.447 billion pounds, up nearly 13 percent from 2019. The annual forecast for 2021 is 3.135 billion pounds, down nine percent from 2020. Imported beef is an important part of the beef industry, creating value-added opportunities for U.S. produced beef. Keep in mind that most of the beef import volume is offset by beef exports valued at higher prices. In 2019, beef export value at \$8.09 billion exceeded beef import value of \$6.02 billion. And import volume is small relative to total U.S. beef production – 27.2 billion pounds in 2019.





Farm Bureau | See us today! Offer ends December 31, 2020.



EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS FOR FARM BUREAU MEMBERS

The Farm Bureau protects the future of your farm and your neighbors' farms all year long. Today, membership can save you up to \$500 on new Case IH tractors and equipment!†

**SAVE
\$300**

on Farmall® compact A & C series tractors, Farmall utility A series tractors, Farmall 100A series tractors, round & small square balers, disc mower conditioners and sickle mower conditioners

**SAVE
\$500**

on Farmall® N & V series tractors, Farmall utility U & C series tractors, Maxxum® series tractors, Vestrum™ series tractors, large square balers and self-propelled windrowers



Print your certificate today!†

Visit <https://www.kyfb.com/>

† A current Farm Bureau membership verification certificate must be presented to the Case IH dealer in advance of product delivery to receive the incentive discount.



ELIZABETHTOWN
JACOBI SALES INC.
800-730-2655
www.jacobisales.com

HOPKINSVILLE
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-844-3918
www.hragripower.com

MORGANFIELD
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-869-1421
www.hragripower.com

RUSSELLVILLE
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-264-2474
www.hragripower.com

GLASGOW
J & J SALES INC.
800-669-5480
www.jjsales.com

MAYFIELD
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-455-4747
www.hragripower.com

OWENSBORO
H & R AGRI-POWER
800-264-1504
www.hragripower.com

SHELBYVILLE
JACOBI SALES INC.
800-730-2684
www.jacobisales.com

* Offer available through 12/31/2020. This offer may be combined with other offers, but is not valid on prior purchases. A valid Farm Bureau® Membership Certificate is required, which may be obtained at www.fb.org/about/join. See your participating Case IH dealer for details and eligibility requirements. Not available in all states. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice. Farm Bureau and the FB State Logo are registered service marks owned by the American Farm Bureau Federation, and are used by CNH America LLC under license from the American Farm Bureau Federation. ©2020 CNH Industrial America LLC. All rights reserved. Case IH is a trademark registered in the United States and many other countries, owned by or licensed to CNH Industrial N.V., its subsidiaries or affiliates. www.caseih.com

Livestock Directory

KDDC salutes the hardworking families of Kentucky. Celebrate with us by enjoying some delicious, nutritious dairy products.

KDDC
Kentucky Dairy
Development Council

New Executive Director

H.H. Barlow
Working for Kentucky's Dairy Farmers

176 Pasadena Drive
Lexington, KY 40503
Cell: 859-516-1129
Email: kddc@kydairy.org
<http://www.kydairy.org>

Service Directory

ROCK BRIDGE TREES

TREES GROWN ON PURPOSE FOR A PURPOSE



- ✓ Pecan Trees for Kentucky
- ✓ Flowering Trees For Bees
- ✓ Wildlife Trees

www.RockBridgeTrees.com
RockBridgeTrees@gmail.com | 615-841-3664
199 Dry Fork Creek Rd | Bethpage, TN | 37022

#STILLFARMING



Logan Hollen, Erin Butler and Kendall Clark stand with some of this year's turkey flock.

Grant County Agriculture Students Talk Turkey, Literally

Both students and community members are benefiting from turkey project

While there are differing stories about how turkey became a traditional food for the Thanksgiving holiday, students in Grant County High School's agricultural program have made an annual turkey sale a tradition of their own at the school and in the community.

Each summer, students receive live turkeys and raise them in the school's outside barn area. This plays a vital part in their animal science education, as they learn to feed and care for the birds throughout their life cycle.

Once the time comes for the turkeys to be processed, they are taken to Kentucky State University to use their mobile processing unit right before Thanksgiving. By this time, word is out in the community, and if the history of the program is any indication, all the turkeys will be sold out to community members long before

Thanksgiving week arrives.

Grant County agriculture teacher and FFA advisor Erin Butler brought the tradition to the program three years ago when she transferred from Harrison County. She said the students in her current program have really taken to the project.

"Having raised turkeys in the Harrison County program, I brought the idea here," she said. "The program at Grant County had been involved in raising broilers before, but never turkeys. It has taken off since that first year and has been hugely popular with my classes."

Butler added that as popular as it has become with the students, the community has really taken to the idea, as well.

"We usually sell out by the time the turkeys are ready for processing," she said. "The community has been very supportive



Thanksgiving fun facts: The first Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621 over a three day harvest festival and Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving a national holiday on October 3, 1863.

of this program, and it helps to raise money for our FFA chapter.”

Butler said in addition to teaching her students about caring for the birds, there is that component of learning to tell their story to others when it comes to the processes involved in animal agriculture.

“When I first get my students as freshmen, one of the first things I teach them is about ag literacy,” she said. “There is so much misinformation in the public about animal agriculture, and we work to get the false information out of the way. I also tell them from day-one, they may not major in agriculture, but my job here is to make them a better and wiser consumer.”

Logan Hollen, Tyler Clemons, Lexi Hoehn, and Kendall Clark are all junior students in the Grant County ag program and have taken active roles in the processes involved in raising the turkeys from the time they arrive, to the time they are processed and sold.

Hoehn spoke of the teamwork it takes to make this project a success.

“It actually does take a lot of teamwork and cooperation as a chapter to do all the things that go with raising 46 turkeys,” she said. “For instance, we all take part in putting up the fencing for the turkeys, which involves a lot of work. This allows the birds to move around and freely go in and out of the barn. There is so much that goes into this... you just don't realize when you're looking at your turkey sitting on the table on Thanksgiving.”

Clark said the project has helped to lend to the chapter's activities as ag advocates.

“I feel that being involved in these kinds of projects, where you're really trying to promote your product, really makes you want to advocate for those projects and what you're doing in agriculture,” she said. “It really makes you want to put yourself, your chapter, and anybody involved out there to educate people, explaining to them where their food really comes from.”

Clemons said the project gets a lot of attention in the community with word going out as soon as the turkeys arrive.

“We even have several customers waiting all year to get their names on the list to get a turkey for Thanksgiving,” he said. “Normally, we sell out within the first two weeks once the public

hears about it, and it is really a good buy for them, getting fresh turkeys that are raised and processed locally.”

Butler said the school program was lucky to get the baby turkeys, called poult, this year because of increased demand.

“There is so much that goes into this...you just don't realize when you're looking at your turkey sitting on the table on Thanksgiving.”

Lexi Hoehn

“There were a lot of growers who were unable to get poult this year, and I was afraid we wouldn't,” she said. “I put our order in last March, and we were lucky enough to get our birds on time.”

Hollen said the turkeys have become the unique thing about their chapter.

“You see lots of other chapters throughout the state that have their own, I guess you could say, cool thing that they do, something that's unique and different to their chapter,” she said. “For us, our turkeys are the thing, and people recognize us as the ‘turkey people.’ And that has been just great for us to be able to get our chapter name out in this way and expressing what we do on a daily basis. We take great pride in that.”

Butler said she is very proud of the way her students have become involved in this project throughout the whole process.

“The students have had fun with this project, but they have also taken it very seriously and put in a lot of time for it,” she said. “I know they will further their careers after high school, and they'll be strong advocates for agriculture. I'm super blessed with the students here at Grant County High School.”

American Farm Bureau's 102nd Convention Goes Virtual

The American Farm Bureau Federation announced recently that its 102nd Annual Convention will be held online following the cancellation of all events through Jan. 31, 2021, at the San Diego Convention Center where the convention was scheduled to take place.

"Our top priority at every Farm Bureau gathering is the safety of our attendees and staff," AFBF President Zippy Duvall said. "While we are saddened to not meet in person for this convention, we are eager to bring this event safely to farm and ranch homes across the country and excited to offer the same top-level content our members have come to expect from our in-person events."

The 2021 American Farm Bureau Virtual Convention, to be held Jan. 10-13, 2021, will bring together farmers, ranchers, and industry experts to discuss the top issues facing agriculture, including the impact of COVID-19, sustainability, and the future of the supply chain, and will feature keynote speakers who inspire and motivate grassroots action. This free online event will bring home American Farm Bureau Convention favorites from the Ag Innovation Challenge and YF&R competitions to the Ag Foundation Book of the Year and the anticipated Farm Dog of the Year.

"Our convention theme this year is 'Stronger Together,'" Duvall said. "I can think of nothing more fitting to spotlight how the agriculture community has come together to keep growing the products our nation depends on while supporting our friends and neighbors throughout this public health crisis."

Registration for the 2021 American Farm Bureau Virtual Convention will open later this year and will be free to all attendees.

KFB Farming Footnote:*

Kentucky Farm Bureau President Mark Haney said the announcement about a virtual AFBF Annual Meeting wasn't totally unexpected given the COVID-19 situation and the restrictions in place. The meeting had been scheduled to take place in San Diego. But he thinks an opportunity now exists for members who would not have been able to attend an in-person meeting.

"While it is disappointing that we won't be able to meet in person, as we have always done, we are in unprecedented times and the safety of our members will always come first," he said. "However, we do see an opportunity for those who may not have been able to attend in person, or who may have never attended an AFBF annual meeting, to get to do so virtually."

Haney added that he expects large numbers of KFB members will attend this year's virtual event.

"We regularly bring one of the largest groups of members to the AFBF annual meetings, and I would expect that to continue this year, even though it will be done in a very different way," he said. "KFB members are always very engaged in these types of events, and we are looking forward to another great meeting."



Post your **FREE** Classified
Ad at **Farm2Ranch.com**

**FARM2
RANCH**.com

The Farm Family Prayer

Dear Lord, it was You who created all the land that sustains us.

It was You who created the waters that nourish us.

It was You who created the animals and plants and the moon and sky and the sun.

It was You who formed this earth on which we live.

And it was You who entrusted us, Your faithful stewards to care for all these things.

You sent us out from our Heavenly home to answer Your call.

You have trusted Your land into our care, so that we may till the soil, and plant, and harvest and feed our brothers and sisters of the world.

You have chosen us as caretakers of the waters and the soils so we may bring abundant food to all of the earth and those who You have created to be its inhabitants.

It was You who called upon us to undertake these tasks, not because it would be an easy life, but because it would be a fulfilling journey, until we come together at Your harvest table, once again.

May we never take for granted these gifts of land and water and sky and sun and animals for which we care so deeply.

May we face each day asking for Your guidance in all we do.

May we work with the land and waters always knowing they belong to You, Oh Lord.

May we reach out to all who are hungry and feed them, in Your name.

May we offer all we produce to others for their care and nourishment and health, for you have bestowed upon us a great calling.

May we raise our children to follow in our footsteps to care for this land and work hard and be thankful for the seasons and all You have entrusted us with.

And may we be thankful for this honor to serve as Your caretakers of this great earth.

May we be patient as we wait for the rains and the sunlight and warmth You deliver to us as we work diligently to provide our lifegiving food.

And as we approached the end of this journey may we look at our time together on this earth with joy and thanksgiving as we take this final step toward our eternal rest, when we gather together once again in our Heavenly home.

Thank You, Oh Lord for having the faith in our farm families to care for Your world and leave it better for Your next generation of caretakers.

All honor and glory be to You,
Amen.





CANDID CONVERSATION



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, Henry County livestock producer Jason Heath discusses being involved in a family farming operation and how important livestock shows, especially the North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE), have been to him and his family.

Would you share with our readers a little about your background in agriculture and how long you have been involved in the showing and/or selling of livestock?

My wife, Tiffany, and I have been blessed with three great children (Jaycie, Cody, and Ty) and a small farm in the agriculture community of Turners Station in Henry County. Growing up in LaRue County on a diversified bicentennial farm, we raised commercial beef cattle, hay, corn, and a small amount of tobacco. This lifestyle is where our passion for agriculture was born. My dad was instrumental in helping us to culminate our showing passion as he himself began showing in 1955. When I was nine years old, we bought our first show heifers and began showing purebred Santa Gertrudis cattle. We continued to show cattle across the southern states, as well as in Kentucky, until I went to the University of Kentucky and majored in Agriculture Economics. While at UK, I was given the opportunity to judge on a very successful livestock judging team and was honored as an All American and, most importantly, met Tiffany. Her story is the polar opposite of mine! She grew up in Louisville and her passion came at UK where she fell in love with the agriculture lifestyle and

culture. This passion led her to work for a large cattle company after graduation and then transferred into a very successful career as veterinary pharmaceutical sales representative and a key role in making our show team as successful as it has been.

Our children began their show careers at a young age, and all three have had champion or reserve novice market goat at the Kentucky State Fair. Jaycie and Cody have shown all species (cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs) and have had Champion and Reserve Champion market goat at the Kentucky State Fair and numerous breed champions in the lamb and beef cattle shows. Cody and Jaycie have been honored with having the National High Point Star 5 Female, and Jaycie had National Champion Star 5 Female.

What have been some the benefits to showing livestock for you and your family?

Showing livestock has played a critical role in developing myself and my family. It has helped develop a sense of pride, dedication, and a competitive edge that no other sport or competition can give.

We have tried to make our kids diverse in their activities including shooting sports, basketball, and baseball (softball for Jaycie) but the livestock background gives them a drive that other kids may lack as when they are at the barn, they are learning along with the animals they are teaching, exercising, and developing. Livestock has opened doors for myself that I could have never imagined when I was eight years old looking for heifers in Tennessee. I

have been honored to judge five national shows, numerous state fairs, and shows in 23 states. I have worked for some of the greatest cattlemen in my generation and have been a part of once-in-a-lifetime experiences, these have included doing the first ever goat stem cell transplant in the world and cloning the first Santa Gertrudis bull in the world.

Showing has also enabled Jaycie to help pay for her education at University of Kentucky and helped develop her agriculture passion as she pursues her master's degree at Oklahoma State University in agriculture education. This lifestyle has also helped our children develop friendships across the United States that they never would have without the show ring influence.

How long has the NAILE been a part of your family farming history, and how important is that event to you and your family?

We have shown at the NAILE since 1979, and my dad has been a superintendent since 1983. Last year Cody was honored as the premier Santa Gertrudis exhibitor at the NAILE. The NAILE and events like it have been a way that we have marketed our cattle for years. We have also culminated relationships that have helped our program grow and develop.

Was there a point this year when you thought all livestock shows would be cancelled, and how did that make you feel?

We were faithful that the leadership we have at the Commissioner's office and



on the Board at Kentucky Venues would figure out some way to have a Kentucky State Fair. However, we were concerned that the NAILE would not happen as the logistics were so much greater in scope, size, and planning.

Having also participated in this year's Kentucky State Fair, how was that experience for you and your family?

To say it was different would be an understatement. For 41 years I had pulled into the fairgrounds, and it has been fence line to fence line with people, vehicles, or rides, and to see vast openness made you realize quickly that things were different. But after the initial differences you begin

to realize that the industry and agriculture community went to the limits to make sure that our kids had a place to exhibit their projects and to show off why this is the greatest youth program in the world (with or without masks).

Is this a family tradition that you hope your children will continue?

I hope that my family continues the tradition that my parents gifted to me, as well as I hope that they will continue to tell the story of agriculture and educate and assist others who are interested in learning about showing and agriculture.



Whether farm or front yard, Farm Bureau® members get BIG savings with John Deere!



Farm Bureau Members* Save up to \$2,700 with John Deere Rewards!

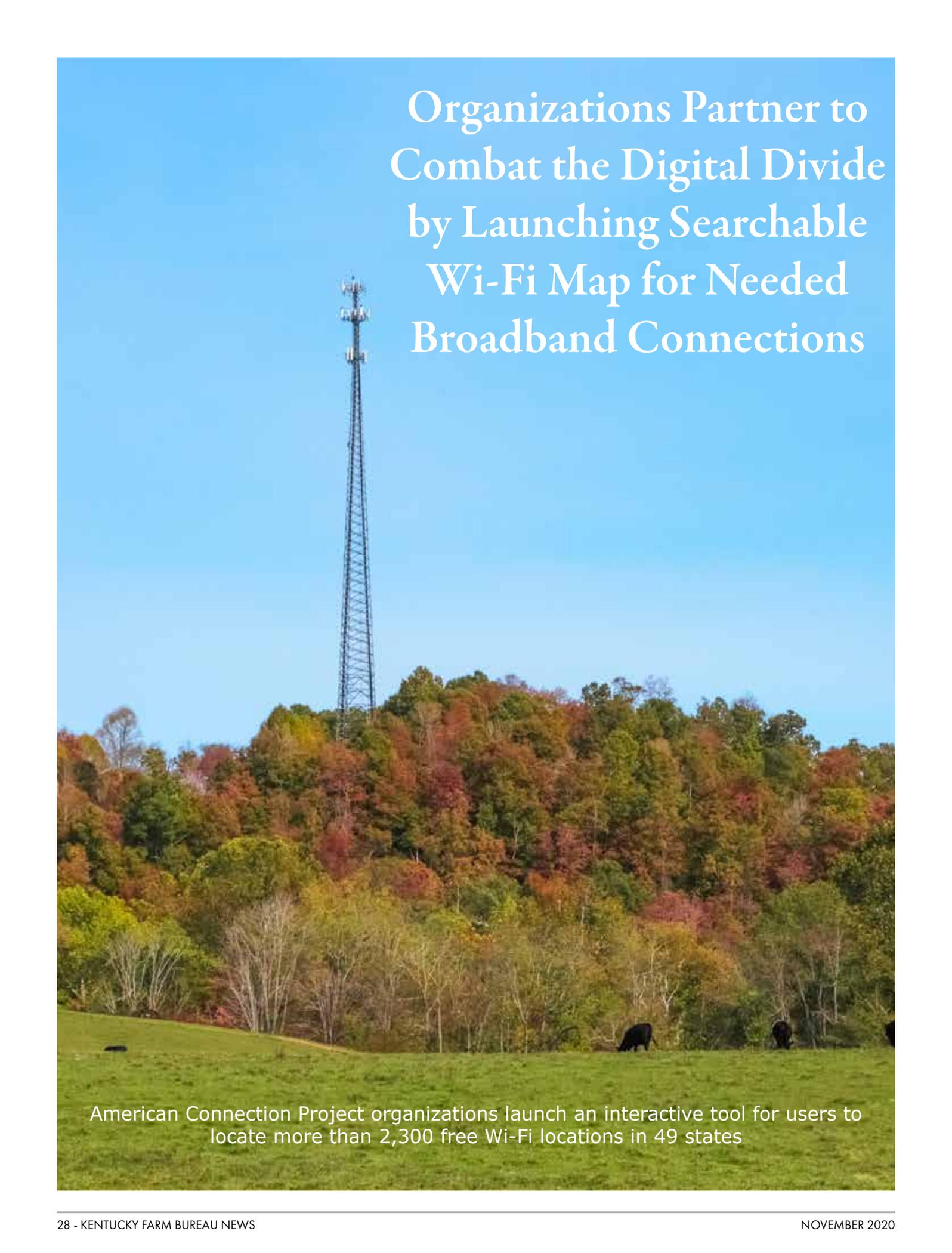
Learn more at JohnDeere.com/FarmBureau

Farm Bureau®
Member Benefits

*Must be a valid member of Farm Bureau for 30 days and have a valid email address to be eligible for John Deere Rewards benefits.

WRIGHT IMPLEMENT				 HENRY COUNTY SUPPLY, INC. NEW CASTLE 502-845-5620 www.henrycountysupply.com
BARDSTOWN 502-348-1665	BOWLING GREEN 270-781-4747	CAMPBELLSVILLE 270-465-5439	ELIZABETHTOWN 270-769-2341	
FLORENCE 859-538-1600	GARDNERSVILLE 859-472-2246	GLASGOW 270-678-9200	HARDINSBURG 270-756-5152	
OWENSBORO 270-683-3606	SHELBYVILLE 502-633-1515	SHEPHERDSVILLE 502-251-1800		

www.wrightimp.com

A tall, lattice-structured communication tower stands on a hill covered in trees with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of green, yellow, orange, and red. In the foreground, a lush green field contains several black cows grazing. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

Organizations Partner to Combat the Digital Divide by Launching Searchable Wi-Fi Map for Needed Broadband Connections

American Connection Project organizations launch an interactive tool for users to locate more than 2,300 free Wi-Fi locations in 49 states

Several partner organizations (recently) announced the launch of the American Connection Project (ACP) interactive Wi-Fi map [americanconnection.io]. The map provides a free resource to help the public locate more than 2,300 free Wi-Fi locations across 49 U.S. states. The map includes Wi-Fi locations from Land O'Lakes, Inc. and its ag retail owner network, along with several partner organizations including 4-H, CentraCare, Compeer, Kentucky Farm Bureau, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Polaris, Inc., the Public Library Association, Tractor Supply Company and Watch Communications, and support from Microsoft and Aruba, a Hewlett Packard Enterprise company.

Today, 18 million Americans don't have access to high-speed internet – most of them in rural communities. Further, roughly nine million K-12 students and 400,000 public school teachers living in both rural and urban communities lack reliable internet access required for learning. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic has shifted health care usage causing telemedicine visits to reach an all-time high as patients seek to avoid exposure at health care facilities.

The Wi-Fi map is an extension of efforts undertaken by the American Connection Project to drive meaningful progress toward closing the digital divide to create opportunities and reduce digital inequality for rural and urban communities in the United States. The map is designed to provide immediate but temporary access for those Americans who lack access to the internet today.

"The launch of the American Connection Project map marks an important milestone in our effort to bring critical services to disconnected communities across America – and a resource for individuals to find broadband access when they truly need it," said Tina May, Vice President of Rural Services at Land O'Lakes, Inc. "We are enormously grateful for the ongoing commitment of our partners in banding together to advocate on behalf of rural communities throughout a difficult time across our country."

"More than 18 million Americans do not have access to broadband Internet, making the digital divide one of the greatest barriers to education access and workforce development for America's youth" said Jennifer Sirangelo, president and CEO, National 4-H Council. "Broadband access was already a great challenge for students before the pandemic, so now that so many young people are matriculating from home, it's imperative that they have high speed internet connections they can depend on. And as the youth development program for Cooperative Extension serving the needs of young people across the country,

we are pleased to be a part of this coalition and its mission to make broadband accessible for communities that need it most."

"All Americans, but particularly rural Americans, will benefit when greater access to affordable broadband internet services is created. This has been a priority issue for Kentucky Farm Bureau for several years now," said Mark Haney, President of Kentucky Farm Bureau. "Partnering with Land O'Lakes and the coalition of organizations that makes up the American Connection Project aligns very closely to our efforts, and we are proud to offer free outdoor Wi-Fi signals at our nearly 200 locations statewide as part of this noble initiative."

"Since the beginning of the pandemic, we've worked with our partners to keep people connected by bringing free public Wi-Fi hotspots to communities around the country--vital links to the internet during a difficult time" said Shelley McKinley, vice president of Technology and Corporate Responsibility at Microsoft. "This map is an excellent summation of that work, and we are grateful for the partnership of so many organizations who are working to bridge the broadband gap."

"We're honored to be a part of the ACP's efforts to find ways to improve rural connectivity. Providing free Wi-Fi from nearly 580 Tractor Supply stores and counting is one of the near-term solutions we can provide to help connect school children, small business owners, farmers and those who need internet access to a vital resource in today's digital world," said Glenn Allison, Tractor Supply's Vice President, IT Enterprise Architecture and IT Solutions.

Throughout the next several months, additional locations will be added to the map. The American Connection Project searchable Wi-Fi map can be accessed at www.americanconnection.io

About the American Connection Project

Millions of Americans go without broadband internet access—most of them in rural communities. The American Connection Project fosters long-term digital inclusion in support of vibrant and thriving rural communities. Efforts include raising awareness about the critical nature of connectivity; advocating for meaningful policy reform and broadband investment; and, taking decisive action to provide connectivity options where they're needed most. Land O'Lakes is convening organizations and leaders from across the country in this critical time to build strong rural communities positioned for competitiveness and connection now and in the future. More information can be found at www.AmericanConnectionProject.com

“More than 18 million Americans do not have access to broadband Internet, making the digital divide one of the greatest barriers to education access and workforce development for America's youth.”

Jennifer Sirangelo



Down the Backroads

By Tim Thornberry

MY ROSE OF HOPE

As much as I love flowers and plants, the last thing I have is a green thumb. I have a hard time keeping plastic flowers alive, let alone anything living. So, when my wife had a landscaping project she wanted completed, my job was restricted solely to spreading the dirt and mulch.

She figures I can't do any harm to dirt and I must say, the project turned out well. However, there was one exception, that being a rose bush that was already planted in this same area we were working on. The plan was to dig it up, finish the landscape remodel, and replant it.

I was in charge of this task, so it should have been no surprise that a couple of weeks later, the rose bush expired.

I felt bad, but at least my consistent record was intact when it comes to gardening. Rather than dig it up and throw it out, my soon-to-be daughter-in-law recommended we leave it for a time just to make sure.

I tried to convince her that it was dead and needed to go but I followed her directions, thinking those horticulture classes weren't doing her any good.

But miracles never cease. The other day, after a first frost had occurred, I wandered outside to finally get rid of the rose bush when much to my surprise a new red rose, glimmering in the morning sunlight, had grown through the middle of that dead looking plant. I couldn't believe it.

I ran to get my wife and show her that my dead plant streak had ended. I even took pictures to have proof. I was so proud.

I tell you that story to tell you this one. As that day wore on, I couldn't help but think that the rose was a gift from the good Lord, showing me that perhaps when all hope is lost, new beginnings are possible.

I promptly named this flower, my "Rose of Hope." With the kind of year we have all had, a little hope can go a long way.

And it couldn't have come at a better time, when we are all contemplating the Thanksgiving holiday. It is a time to count our blessings, even when we may think there are not many to count.

With the winter coming on quickly, I know my rose will fade away for a while, but now I have the knowledge and hope that it will emerge again when the warmth of spring reappears.

My mother used to tell me that as long as one has faith and

hope, anything is possible. We may have to dig through a few dead rose bush shoots, but what we will find is worth the dig.

May we all find a "Rose of Hope" as we travel down the backroads.



Farm Bureau members receive

\$1,000 BONUS CASH*

FOR A LIMITED TIME ON MOST ELIGIBLE NEW FORD VEHICLES

Our valued partnership highlights the great movement that we have together, and how farming and trucks have gone together for over 100 years.



Computer-generated image with optional accessories shown.

BUILT *Ford* PROUD

Don't miss out on this offer. Visit FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com today!

BARDSTOWN
CONWAY HEATON, INC.
502-348-3929
www.conway-heaton.com

ELIZABETHTOWN
BOB SWOPE FORD, INC.
270-737-1000
www.bobswopeford.com



BRANDENBURG
RAY'S FORD
270-422-4901
www.raysford.com

HARTFORD
MOORE FORD
270-298-4800
www.moorefordofky.com

OWENSBORO
CHAMPION FORD LINCOLN,
INC.
270-663-0681
www.championowensboro.com

CARROLLTON
EARL FLOYD FORD
502-732-6674
www.earlfloydford.com

LOUISVILLE
TOWN AND COUNTRY FORD,
LLC
833-957-0286
www.fordlouisville.com

SHELBYVILLE
O'BRIEN FORD OF
SHELBYVILLE
502-633-4535
www.obrienford.com

CORBIN
LEGACY FORD LINCOLN
606-528-1904
www.legacyfordky.com

MADISONVILLE
WATERMARK FORD OF
MADISONVILLE
270-821-4100
www.watermarkfordky.com

SOMERSET
ALTON BLAKLEY FORD
606-678-5181
www.altonblakleyford.com

DANVILLE
STUART POWELL FORD, INC.
859-236-8917
www.stuartpowell.com

* Farm Bureau Bonus Cash is exclusively for active Farm Bureau members who are residents of the United States. \$1,000 Bonus Cash on most eligible new 2020/2021 Ford vehicles, and \$500 Bonus Cash on eligible new F-150 and Super Duty. This incentive is not available on Ford Mustang Shelby GT350®, Mustang Shelby® GT350R, Mustang Shelby® GT500®, Mustang Mach 1, Mustang Mach-E, Bronco, Bronco Sport, Ford GT and F-150 Raptor. This offer may not be used in conjunction with most other Ford Motor Company private incentives or AXZD-Plans. Some customer and purchase eligibility restrictions apply. Must be a Farm Bureau member for 30 consecutive days prior to purchase and take new retail delivery from an authorized Ford Dealer's stock by January 4, 2021. Visit FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com or see your authorized Ford Dealer for qualifications and complete details. Note to dealer: Claim in VINCENT using #37408.



Coverage for your home, car — and body.

Now offering Anthem Enhanced Choice!



Kentuckians have long turned to Kentucky Farm Bureau for home, auto and life insurance that meets their unique needs. But did you know Kentucky's insurance company also offers health coverage? Thanks to a partnership with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield and their new Anthem Enhanced Choice plan, you can choose from a variety of health insurance plan options. Talk to your local Kentucky Farm Bureau Insurance agent about one that works best for you and your family.

Anthem Enhanced Choice offers:

- Coverage for up to 36 months
- Medically underwritten rates
- Blue Access network for coverage outside of KY
- Medical plans with \$40 copays, \$10 prescription drug coverage, and deductibles as low as \$1,500
- Quoting begins 11/1 for a 12/2 effective date - members can enroll any time of the year

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU  **INSURANCE**



BIG ON COMMITMENT.®

Kentucky Farm Bureau is an authorized independent agent in Kentucky for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is the trade name of Anthem Health Plans of Kentucky, Inc. An independent license of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. This coverage is not required to comply with certain federal market requirements for health insurance, principally those contained in the Affordable Care Act. Be sure to check your policy carefully to make sure you are aware of any exclusions or limitations regarding coverage of preexisting conditions or health benefits (such as hospitalization, emergency services, maternity care, preventive care, prescription drugs, and mental health and substance use disorder services). Your policy might also have lifetime and/or annual dollar limits on health benefits. If this coverage expires or you lose eligibility for this coverage, you might have to wait until an open enrollment period to get other health insurance coverage.