



AJGA McCracken Sports Junior Championship



Mia Hammond from New Albany, OH was in first place at the time of publication in Thursday's AJGA McCracken Sports Junior Championship that was held July 15th - 17th. Hammond is committed to Duke University. For complete list of winners, visit www.ajga.org or see next week's edition of West KY News.



Madison Glisson from Boaz, KY was in 2nd place at the time of publication. Glisson is the defending All-A Kentucky State Champion from Ballard Memorial. The tournament was represented by 19 states, 6 countries, 6 Paducah locals, 17 Kentucky locals and 7 college commitments.

Photos by Greg LeNeave

Livingston County Court Clerk to speak at Historical Society meeting

Sonya Williams, Livingston County Court Clerk, will speak at the July meeting of the Livingston County Historical Society. Many documents and records held by the Clerk's office have recently been digitized. Ms. Williams will update residents on what has been digitized, available records, how to access them, and assist with any research questions. Everyone is welcome. The meeting will be Monday, July 21, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in the main courtroom of the Livingston County Courthouse Museum in Smithland, Kentucky.

Barkley Regional Airport petition gains 1,000+ signatures in 5 days

By Mike Mohundro
WSIL-TV
Special to West KY News

WEST PADUCAH, Ky. (WSIL) -- Barkley Regional Airport's recent petition in support of the Barkley Regional Airport Authority Board's airline recommendation closed with 1,017 signatures in just five days.

The petition aimed to show public backing for the SkyWest Airlines recommendation, operating as United, provide commercial air service at Barkley under the Essential Air Service program.

The U.S. Department of Transportation will make the final decision, but the petition will be part of the region's formal record of support. The community's response underscores the importance of reliable air service and the public's desire for continued progress, a representative with the airport said.

SkyWest's proposal includes flights to Chicago O'Hare International Airport and George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston, offering connections to 271 destinations worldwide. The service would use the CRJ-550 jet, a dual-class, 50-seat aircraft with enhanced comfort and amenities.

If approved, SkyWest's service is expected to begin in December 2025. Barkley Regional Airport will provide updates as they become available.

Barkley Regional Airport expressed gratitude to everyone who supported the petition, emphasizing the community's role in shaping the future of air travel in the region.

Missing Tennessee man found dead in Lake Barkley

By News Edge Newsroom

A search on Lake Barkley has ended after authorities recovered the body of a missing Tennessee man during a multi-agency operation in Livingston County.

The Livingston County Sheriff's Office says the investigation started Wednesday in Grand Rivers after 68-year-old Donald Smith of Johnson City, Tennessee, was reported missing.

Authorities reported Thursday morning that Smith's body was found in Lake Barkley, and initial findings suggest there is no indication of foul play at this time.

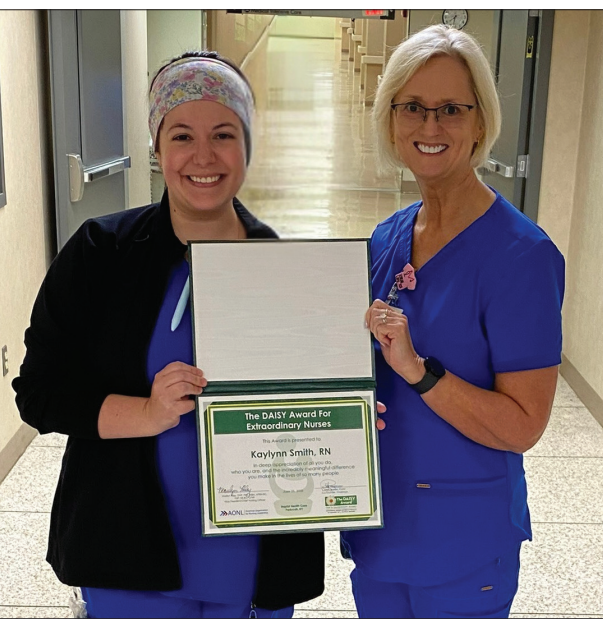
The death investigation is ongoing by the Livingston County Sheriff's Office.

The sheriff's office was assisted in the search and recovery efforts by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Livingston County Emergency Management, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, Livingston County EMS, the Grand Lakes Fire Department, and the Livingston and Lyon County Coroner's Offices.



Barkley Regional Airport
Photo by Eric Mueller

Baptist Health Paducah names DAISY Award recipient



Kaylynn Smith, RN, has been named Baptist Health Paducah's most recent DAISY Award recipient. Kaylynn is a nurse in the hospital's float pool. The DAISY Award is an international program that rewards and celebrates the extraordinary clinical skills and compassionate care given by nurses every day.

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses was created in memory of J. Patrick Barnes who died at 33 of ITP, an autoimmune disease. The Barnes Family was awestruck by the clinical skills, caring and compassion of the nurses who cared for Patrick, so they created this international award to say thank you to nurses everywhere.

As a DAISY Award Hospital Partner, Baptist Health Paducah recognizes one nurse with this special honor quarterly.

Below is the nomination submitted in Kaylynn's honor:

"I took over care of a patient from Nurse Kaylynn. During the report Kaylynn told me that she walked into the patient's room at one point over night and found the patient crying. Kaylynn talked with the patient and found out what was wrong. The patient told her that she and her spouse relied on getting their food from the food bank two Thursdays a month. The patient stated that she was so worried that she wasn't going to be able to make it to the food bank this week due to being sick and all the snow on the ground. This would leave her and her husband without food for the next

see DAISY, back page

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Congratulations to Boot Barn on their new location and ribbon cutting

They offer a variety of western wear including boots, hats, clothing and much more! They are open seven days a week: Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Boot Barn is located at 3330 James Sanders Blvd., Suite 100. For more information, view their website www.bootbarn.com

Kentucky Great River Road receives Byway Enhancement Award



The Kentucky Great River Road has been recognized by the National Scenic Byway Foundation with a Byway Enhancement Award for recent improvements made to the byway corridor through the installation of new wayfinding signs!

This project was funded by ARPA funding provided by the Kentucky Department of Tourism and aimed to enhance navigation and visibility along the Kentucky Great River

Road for both residents and visitors.

We would like to thank Chastain Engineering for their planning and design work, Bluegrass Signs for fabricating the signs, and the Kentucky Department of Transportation for handling the installation.

This coordinated effort reflects the continued commitment to improving the Kentucky Great River Road for all who travel it!

Lifeline Recover Center receives award

Lifeline Recovery Center has been awarded \$188,000 for a multi-phased workforce development program to equip clients for workforce readiness.

The grant, the center's first federal grant award, is one of 25 awarded by the Delta Regional Authority in its eight-state service area.

Lifeline executive director Ashley Miller said the grant will help clients, some of whom have been in jail or homeless, prepare to get jobs through GED, college and entrepreneurial classes on its men's and

women's campuses.

"Lifeline is one of the few residential treatment programs that require clients to work," Miller said. "This new workforce readiness program will provide the classes they need to get better jobs, so they can become more productive members of our community after completing treatment."

Lifeline helps clients seeking sobriety. The Delta River Authority promotes economic development in part of Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee.

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Kelly Channell named CEO of United Way of Western Kentucky

By United Way of Western Kentucky

The United Way of Western Kentucky Board of Directors is proud to announce Kelly Channell as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective immediately. Kelly, a lifelong resident of Western Kentucky, brings deep organizational knowledge, a heart for service and more

than two decades of professional and community leadership to the role.

Kelly served as Chief Operations Officer for United Way of Western Kentucky since 2021, where she helped guide the organization through a period of significant growth and regional expansion, including its transformation from a single-county focus to serving

seven counties across Western Kentucky. In her time as COO, she led fundraising efforts, strengthened community partnerships, enhanced donor relations and improved internal operations across the organization.

A proud native of Ballard County, her commitment to the people and progress of Western Kentucky

is both personal and longstanding. "Kelly's commitment goes far beyond her professional role—it's rooted in lived experience," said Oscar Harrell, President of the United Way of Western Kentucky Board of Directors. "She knows this region because she's grown up in it,

see UNITED WAY, page 3

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Daily 4:00 pm/7:00 pm

Starts Friday July 25th

The Fantastic Four: First Steps (PG-13)

KSP Fundraiser Champions Support for Domestic Violence Survivors in Western Kentucky

By: Laurna Todd
KPI Writer

The Kentucky State Police (KSP) is launching an impactful fundraiser as part of their commitment to empower survivors of domestic violence and provide crucial assistance to those in need across Western Kentucky.

This initiative seeks to raise essential funds for local domestic violence shelters and outreach organizations, including Lotus in Paducah and the Merryman House in Graves County. The money raised will directly fund vital services such as emergency shelter, nutritious food, counseling, legal advocacy, transportation, and long-term support options for survivors and their children. KSP officers are

dedicated to ensuring not just immediate safety, but also the opportunity for survivors to rebuild their lives with dignity and hope.

Domestic violence has no boundaries—it has huge impacts on families in every corner of the world. This fundraiser hopefully will help survivors to feel that help and will be both available and within reach. Also to know that they are not alone in your struggle.

All proceeds from the fundraiser will go directly to shelters and support centers that are prepared to provide essential guidance and support to survivors throughout their recovery journeys. In tandem with financial contributions, KSP is committed to raising awareness through robust public outreach and education, informing

the community about the signs of abuse and how to seek help.

For anyone in need of assistance, reach out to your local domestic violence shelter or call the 24/7 Kentucky Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-544-2022. All services are offered confidentially and at no cost.

Get involved in this vital cause by donating directly through the KSP website or participating in upcoming events set to be announced throughout Western Kentucky. With your support, KSP aims to expand access to life-saving resources and play a crucial role in breaking the cycle of abuse for countless families in our region. Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of survivors and foster a safer, stronger community.

Woods promoted to Technical Sergeant in US Air Force

Staff Sergeant Alexandria Woods, has been selected for promotion to Technical Sergeant in the United States Air Force. This year, 7,884 staff sergeants were selected out of 30,776 eligible members, with a promotion rate of 25.62%.

Born and raised in Bardwell, KY, and a proud 2017 graduate of Carlisle County High School, Staff Sergeant Woods has dedicated her career to guiding the next generation of Airmen and Guardians. Since beginning her recruiting journey in 2022, she has helped transform lives throughout the region with her leadership, authenticity, and relentless drive to make a difference.

Her impact has earned her several top-level honors in 2025, including:

- Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year for the 332nd Recruiting Squadron
- Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year for the 369th Recruiting



Group
- United States Air Force Accessions Center Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year
- 332nd Recruiting Squadron Gold Badge Recruiter, the squadron's highest individual recruiting recognition
Staff Sergeant Woods credits her success to the mentorship she's

received, the strength of her team, and the constant support of her family and hometown community. As she steps into her new role as a Technical Sergeant, she remains committed to inspiring others, living out the Air Force core values, and being a trusted mentor for those following in her footsteps.

Kentucky Hoop Barns: Built on honesty, quality and craftsmanship

Nestled in the heart of central Kentucky, Kentucky Hoop Barns has been providing reliable, high-quality agricultural structures since 1999. Located at 476 Frogg Lane in Raywick, Kentucky, this small yet mighty operation has earned a strong reputation across the region for delivering durable hoop barns with a personal touch.

Founded by the father-and-son duo Paul and Matt Mattingly, Kentucky Hoop Barns began as a simple venture rooted in hard work and dedication. Over

the years, the business has grown steadily, exceeding even their own expectations. Despite its growth, the company remains a two-man operation, with no additional employees—a rarity in today's market.

Matt Mattingly, the General Manager, takes particular pride in meeting new customers and making each sale a meaningful experience. "We just do whatever needs to be done," Matt explains, capturing the hands-on, no-nonsense approach that defines the business. This level of commitment and

personal attention is what keeps customers coming back.

Kentucky Hoop Barns specializes in providing structures that meet the practical needs of farmers and agricultural professionals, all while upholding their founding values of honesty, quality, and craftsmanship. These values aren't just slogans—they're the foundation of every barn they build.

Looking ahead, Kentucky Hoop Barns is excited to take part in the Farm and Machinery Show in Louisville, KY this coming February. The

event is an excellent opportunity for the Mattinglys to connect with both new and existing customers, showcase their work, and continue sharing their passion for building.

For more information or to inquire about a new barn, you can contact:

- Paul Mattingly at 270-699-1499
 - Matt Mattingly at 270-699-5484
 - Or email: mpma224@gmail.com
- Kentucky Hoop Barns isn't just a business—it's a family legacy built on trust, one barn at a time.

KSP charge Ballard County inmates with attempted escape and assault

WICKLIFFE, Ky. – Kentucky State Police (KSP) Post 1 has charged a Ballard County Jail inmate after he reportedly attempted to escape the facility and assaulted two corrections employees.

On July 11th at 10:50pm, KSP Post 1 received information from River County 911 advising that Ballard County Sheriff's Office had requested KSP to investigate an incident that occurred at the Ballard County Jail. It was reported that an inmate had attempted to escape and assaulted two deputy jailers in the process of attempting to escape. Troopers responded to the jail and began an investigation.

The preliminary investigation

indicates that Jeremy Lynn entered the control room of the Ballard County Jail, assaulted a corrections employee who was in the control room and attempted to unlock doors from within the control room. Lynn then assaulted a second corrections employee who entered the control room before he was taken back into custody.

Jeremy Lynn, 32 years old of Lovelaceville, KY was arrested and charged with Escape 1st Degree (Attempt) and two counts of Assault 3rd Degree - Inmate Assault on Correctional Employee. He remains lodged at the Ballard County Jail.

Neither correctional employee required medical attention.

UNITED WAY,
from page 2

served in it, and cares deeply about its future. Her proven operational leadership, passion for people, and strong vision for regional growth make her the



right person to lead us forward."

Prior to joining United Way, Kelly served as Member Services Director at the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce and held several leadership roles during her 18-year tenure at the Wickliffe Paper Mill. She holds both a master's and bachelor's degree from Murray State University and is active in the community as a member of the Kiwanis Club of Paducah and as a dance instructor for the American Cancer Society's Dancing with Our Stars event and Dancin' Divas, an

adult dance troupe that helps support the mission of Norton Children's Hospital.

"I'm honored to step into this role," said Kelly. "I've seen the challenges families in our region face, and I'm committed to building on the strong foundation already in place -- growing and building new partnerships, reaching more people, and expanding our impact across all seven counties. I'm especially grateful to lead an organization that shows up for its communities and works to create real, lasting change."

United Way of Western Kentucky

serves Ballard, Carlisle, Hickman, Fulton, Graves, Marshall and McCracken Counties by improving conditions in the areas of education, income and health. For more information about the organization, visit unitedwaywky.org.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Bluegrass Barrel Reserve, LLC, hereby declares its intention to apply for Distilled Spirits and Wine Storage License, the license for Bluegrass Barrel Reserve, and will be located at 1613 Wisewell Road, Murray, KY 42071. The managing member is William Daniel Steel.

Any person, association, corporation or body politic may protest the granting of the license by writing the Department of Alcohol Beverage Control, 500 Mero St. 2 NE 33, Frankfort, KY 40601 within 30 days of the date of legal publication.

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WAVE Ag Day set for July 31st

The Annual WAVE Ag Day will be held at Columbus-Belmont State Park on Thursday, July 31 this year.

Breakfast will begin at 8 am with biscuit

sandwiches provided by CDB.

The program begins at 9:30 am

They will be starting the morning off by meeting sponsors and partners and

recognizing local leaders and contest winners. Then keynote speakers and a fantastic day of socializing.

Everyone is invited and urged to attend.

OCTC receives 5-year TRiO grant

OWENSBORO, KY — On Thursday, July 3, 2025, Owensboro Community & Technical College (OCTC) received notification that the U.S. Department of Education awarded the college a \$1.36 million grant under the Federal TRiO Student Support Services program.

Dr. Scott Williams, OCTC President, commented, “We are very excited to be awarded the funds for continued support of our TRiO program. It is a testament to



Becky Hodskins

the hard work of the TRiO staff and the strength of the program. Their retention and graduation rates are stellar and that only proves that they really are helping students

succeed. While they do have a limited number of students in TRiO, the programming they offer benefits all of our students who are willing to take advantage of it.”

The proposed number of student participants from OCTC is 144 annually. OCTC’s TRiO project is funded 100% by federal funds.

Becky Hodskins has been Director of OCTC’s TRiO Student Support Services since 2017.

TRiO is a program for first-generation, low-income, and disabled students. The program provides academic advising, tutoring support, career advising, cultural enrichment activities, and assistance in applying or Financial Aid for students in need. “The goal of our program is to assist in reducing barriers that may hinder students from successfully completing classes, graduating, and/ or transferring to a 4-year institution,” said Hodskins.

Hodskins and other TRiO representatives are currently working to recruit 70 students to fill the vacancies left by graduates from the spring and summer semesters. Interested students may apply by visiting the web page <https://owensboro.kctcs.edu/current-students/academic-resources/trio.aspx> and downloading the application.

For more information on TRiO Student Support Services and the resources they provide, please contact Becky Hodskins at becky.hodskins@kctcs.edu or by phone 270.686.4613.

United Way of Western Kentucky launches impact opportunity, presented by AES US Renewables



From left to right — Meagan Miller, AES Project Manager, Environmental Permitting; Katie Haarsager, AES Stakeholder Relations Manager; Jeremy Evans, AES Development Manager; Betsy Burkeen, Former United Way of Western Kentucky CEO; Johanna Kraus-Darden, AES Development Director; Trevor Hindmarch, AES Manager, Environmental Permitting; Gina Leeper, United Way of Western Kentucky Board Secretary; Brent Housman, United Way of Western Kentucky Board Vice President; Kelly Channell, United Way of Western Kentucky Interim CEO and Chief Operations Officer.

Western Kentucky, — The United Way of Western Kentucky is proud to announce the launch of Impact Opportunity, a regional initiative presented by AES US Renewables.

Through partnerships with local organizations, community leaders, and individuals directly impacted by poverty, Impact Opportunity will address barriers to essential needs, including education, affordable housing, healthcare, and economic mobility. This collaborative approach goes beyond analyzing data — it invites those who experience and work with these challenges daily to inform and drive meaningful solutions.

Task force groups will be assembled in Ballard, Carlisle, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Marshall, and McCracken counties. These groups will include community leaders from government, education, service organizations, and local residents who are familiar with the barriers faced by income constrained individuals and those living in poverty.

The Graves County task force group has already begun this important work. In Graves County, the community champion leader is Georgann Lookofsky, a United Way board member, former board president and one of the original leaders of Impact Poverty. This group has explored the current successes and challenges in the areas of education,

crime, workforce, community health, and substance abuse and will continue learning about additional topics in upcoming meetings. Task forces representing the other counties are being assembled now and will launch over the next few months.

Impact Opportunity builds on the foundation of Impact Poverty, a successful program led by the United Way of Paducah-McCracken County from 2010 to 2020. Following the organization’s expansion in November 2022 to serve seven counties, it became evident the challenges facing Western Kentucky communities are diverse and evolving.

“Impact Opportunity is both data and community-driven, combining research with the lived experiences of those facing economic hardship,” said Kelly Channell, Interim CEO of United Way of Western Kentucky. “By listening to our communities and using data to inform our efforts, we are committed to addressing the systemic challenges that hold our region back.”

The initiative will involve in-depth research and analysis to uncover the underlying issues contributing to poverty. ALICE, an acronym which stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed, is a way of defining our families, neighbors, and colleagues who

work hard, earn above the federal poverty level, but not enough to afford a basic household budget. By collaborating with

United Way of Kentucky, United Way Worldwide, and using ALICE data, United Way will gain valuable insights into the specific challenges faced by Western Kentucky residents.

AES US Renewables is dedicated to making a positive impact in the communities where it operates through its social impact programs. These programs, which are tailored to the individual community, focus on four key areas: access to safe, reliable, and affordable energy and essential services; inclusive and substantial economic growth; environmental stewardship; and community resilience.

As an innovative energy company, AES is the current developer of the proposed 60 MW McCracken Solar project in the county.

United Way of Western Kentucky expanded its service area in 2022 to serve seven counties and is dedicated to making a meaningful impact by addressing the root causes of poverty. By conducting research, forming partnerships, and engaging with the community, United Way is creating lasting change for individuals and families across the region.

For more information about Impact Opportunity and how to get involved, visit unitedwaywky.org/impact-opportunity.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Service Commission of Kentucky issued an order on March 13, 2025, scheduling a hearing to be held on August 4, 2025, at 9 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in the Richard Raff Hearing Room at the offices of the Public Service Commission located at 211 Sower Boulevard in Frankfort, Kentucky, for Case No. 2025-00045. This is an examination of the Electronic Application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Site Compatibility Certificates.

This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov.

Public comments may be made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to make oral public comments may do so by following the instructions listed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov.

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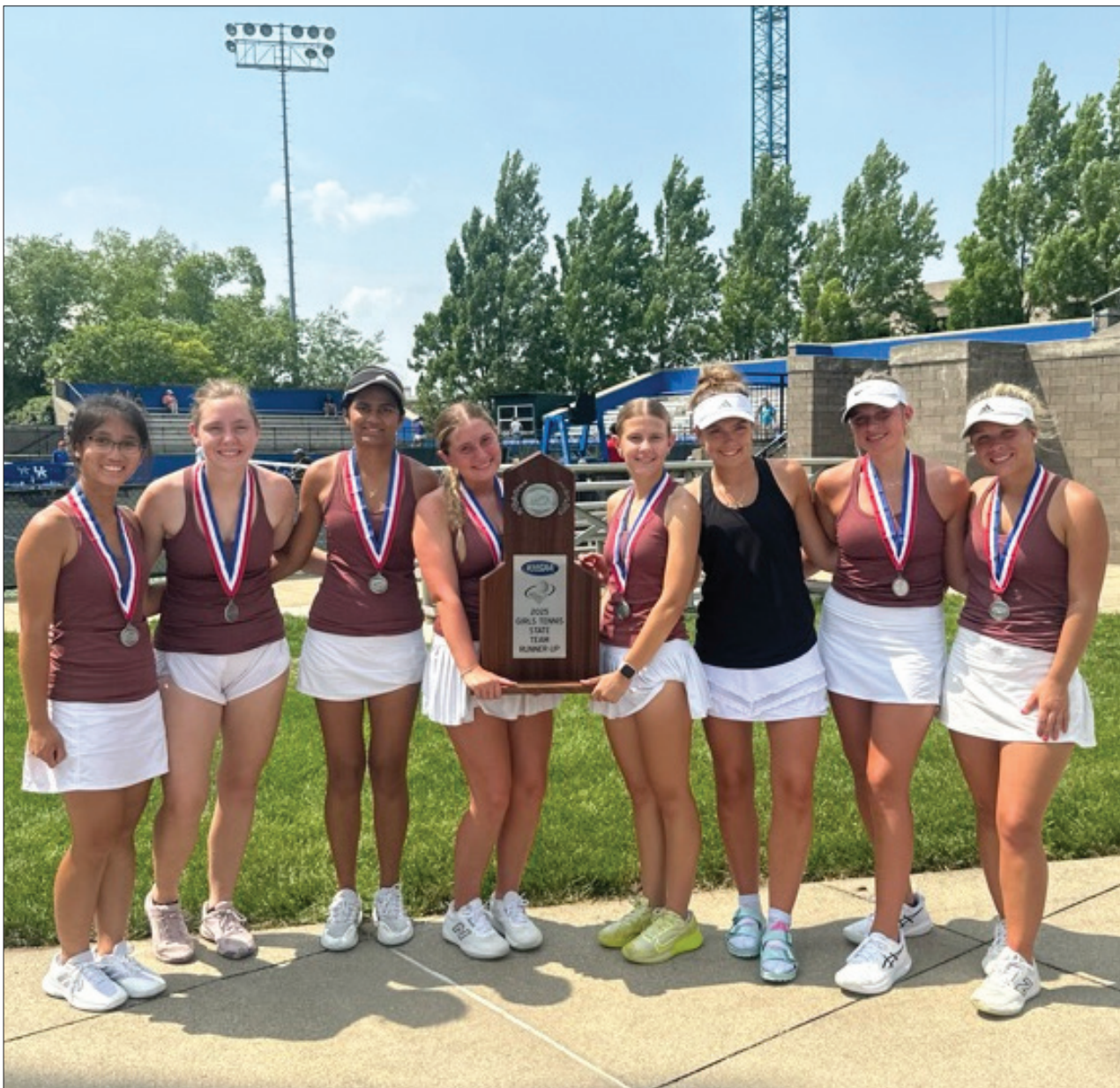
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WEST KY SPORTS



After finishing as the 2025 state runner-up, the McCracken County girls' tennis team carried momentum into its offseason.

Photo courtesy of McCracken County High School Athletics

SUMMER COLLEGIATE BASEBALL

Chiefs rally to defeat Miners

Staff Report

PADUCAH — Paducah battled back from behind to defeat Madisonville 9-7 in an Ohio Valley League game at Brooks Stadium on Monday, July 14.

The Chiefs won after facing a four-run deficit earlier in the matchup.

A solo home run to left field by Pete Britton put Madisonville on the scoreboard first in the top half of the opening inning.

Madisonville extended its early lead

with three runs in the top half of the second inning following RBI singles by Dylan Toler and Coulter Hamilton.

Paducah made the score 4-2 in the bottom half of the second inning when Javin Gauthier hit a solo home run to right field, and Noah Wagster tripled, scoring one run.

The Chiefs took the lead in the bottom half of the fifth inning when Nate Lang doubled, scoring two runs. Lang's double allowed Paducah to move ahead 5-4.

A home run

to left field by Dominic Maldet put Madisonville ahead 7-5 in the top half of the sixth inning.

Paducah went ahead 8-7 in the bottom half of the sixth inning after singles by Gauthier and Brayden Baker.

Connor Priesel started on the mound for the Chiefs. Priesel allowed five hits and four runs over five innings, striking out seven and walking four.

Travis Kellems stepped on the mound first for the Miners. Kellems gave up six

hits and five runs over four and two-thirds innings, striking out six and walking four.

Konner Myatt threw three scoreless innings in relief for the Chiefs. Myatt struck out four and walked one.

Paducah connected for 11 hits. Gauthier, Baker, TK Madera and Easton Denning each collected two hits for the Chiefs.

Maldet paced Madisonville at the plate, supplying three runs batted in. Britton and Hamilton each collected two hits for the Miners

SUMMER COLLEGIATE BASEBALL

Railroaders double up Flash

Staff Report

FULTON — Fulton doubled up Henderson 6-3 in an Ohio Valley League game at Lohaus Field on Friday, July 11.

A solo home run to right field by Jacob Lott put Fulton on the scoreboard in the bottom half of the second inning.

The Railroaders scored three runs in the bottom half of the fourth inning on a home run to right field by Zander Smith following a six-pitch at-bat.

Troy Joslin earned the win on the mound for the Railroaders. Joslin gave up three hits and zero runs over seven innings, striking out four and walking two.

Kiefer Parsons took the loss on the mound

for the Flash. Parsons pitched four and two-thirds innings, allowing six runs on six hits, striking out seven and walking four.

Another pitcher, Blake Althuisius, threw one scoreless inning in relief for the Railroaders. Althuisius surrendered two hits, striking out two and walking none.

Smith connected for one hit and drove in three runs for the Railroaders. Owen Sullivan led Fulton at the plate, connecting for two hits in four at-bats.

Hunter Vaughn paced Henderson, delivering two hits in four at-bats. Jackson Pruitt and Dane DeWees each drove in one run for the Flash.



Mayfield High School rising senior Mak Hoover attended a Morehead State University Football Camp in June.

Courtesy photo

Double first base introduced into high school baseball

Staff Report

LEXINGTON — Beginning with the 2027 season, a double first base will be required in high school baseball games to minimize the risk of collisions by runners and fielders.

This rule revision was one of 10 proposed by the NFHS Baseball Rules Committee during its annual meeting held June 8-10 at The Alexander hotel in Indianapolis. The rules changes were accepted by the NFHS Board of Directors.

New language was added to Rule 1-2-9 noting that the double first base must be white and a contrasting solid color. The white portion of the base is located in fair territory while the colored half is located in foul territory, split by the first base foul line. There is to be no

space between the two portions of the double base.

“Adding the double first base is symbolic to the evolution of the sport. It will immediately address running lane violations, and it will further protect the players from the violent collisions that have occurred at first base,” said Elliot Hopkins, NFHS director of sports and liaison to the Baseball Rules Committee. “By reducing collisions and enhancing safety, it preserves both the integrity of competition and the well-being of those who play.”

Several subsequent rules changes, including Rule 8-2-2a, outline how batter-runners and fielders shall use the double first base. The batter-runner should use the colored base on

an initial play at first base unless a fielder is drawn into foul territory to receive a dropped third strike, in which case, the batter-runner would use the white portion of the base. Once the batter-runner reaches first base, the batter-runner must always return to the white base, including when leading off, returning on a pick-off attempt or tagging up on a fly ball.

A batter-runner may use either side of first base on a base-on-balls or on an extra-base hit to the outfield when there is no chance of a play to be made at first base.

Interference is to be called on batter-runners if they only touch the white portion on a force play at first and collide with the fielder. Similarly, it is obstruction if a

defensive player only touches the colored portion of the base and collides with the batter-runner.

Rule 2-5-1h was added to note that it is a fair ball if a batted ball hits or bounds over any part of the white portion of the double first base. Alternately, it is a foul ball if a batted ball hits or bounds over any part of the colored portion of the base (Rule 2-16-1h).

Rule 3-4-6 was added to address defensive player meetings as charged conferences. Each team, when on defense, may be granted not more than one player-to-player meeting during an inning. Umpires shall deny any subsequent defensive team requests for that half-inning. Additionally, Rule 2-10-3 was added to define a player-to-player defensive

meeting as having two or more defensive players.

“A player-to-player defensive meeting is a natural and essential part of the game — whether it’s strategy, encouragement or clarification, but having multiple meetings in a half-inning adds additional time that lengthens a contest and is not in the best interest of the game,” Hopkins said. “A charged conference, however, involves direct coaching intervention with either a coach or a non-playing representative and is intended to provide instruction. The distinction ensures we honor both the flow of the game and the role of coaching.”

Two rules changes were approved to bring the Baseball Rules Book in line with all NFHS

rules. Language added to Rule 1-4-4 allows a school’s name, nickname, logo, mascot and/or player’s name to be permitted on a uniform top and/or pants beginning in 2027.

In addition, Rule 1-6-3 states that “no player shall wear any audio (microphone) or video (camera) device during the game.”

A complete listing of the baseball rules changes will be available on the NFHS website at www.nfhs.org. Click on “Sports” at the top of the home page and select “Baseball.”

According to the 2023-24 NFHS High School Athletics Participation Survey, baseball is the fourth-most popular boys sport with 471,701 boys participating in 16,146 high schools across the nation.



McCracken County attended the Centre College Soccer Team Camp. The Mustangs reached the camp finals and finished runner-up to a team from South Africa. Photo courtesy of McCracken County High School Athletics

Markezz Hightower, they always call him ‘Mr. Touchdown, soon, they may call him ‘Mr. Football

By Fletcher Long

Markezz Hightower is among the more versatile players in the KHSAA. The '26 “Mr. Football” candidate rushed for 1,604 yards in 206-carries (7.79-yards per rushing attempt), scored a TD every 10th carry in 5A football, and tallied 138-points to lead the team in scoring. Hightower contributed on offense, both rushing and receiving; on defense, where he picked a pass; and on special teams, where he converted six (6) times on two (2) point conversions. Hightower has the skill set to do it all, and that would include winning the coveted “Mr. Football” award at year’s end. “They always call him Mr. Touchdown.” They may have a new title for him when it is all said and done this Fall.

— HB LYON, SCOUTING DIRECTOR, “KPGFOOTBALL”

Madisonville, KY: — Most seasons we weigh in on Mr. Football candidates. Most seasons the people we weigh in on end up taking home the hardware.

Several years ago we told you about Isaac Dixon from Belfry. At years end, you guys agreed with us about his being the best football player in Kentucky and voted him “Mr. Football.” A year or two later we were extolling the prowess of Daniel Thomas from Bell County. At season’s end, that year (2023), he was taking home his “Mr. Football” award. Last year, it was Boyle County’s Montavin Quisenberry taking home the “Mr. Football” hardware. We predicted his getting in the race four years before he won the award. If you will recall, we wrote he was the top skill player in his class (2025) way back in October of 2021. At the time, “Q,” as we dubbed him, had just finished his freshman season at Garrard County. Here is the article. The point is, we know about what we are talking when it comes to making such predictions. The proof is in the pudding. We like Markezz Hightower for this year’s award. Now

that prediction is predicated on a couple of contingencies. *Hightower has been rated three (3) stars by several national recruiting services and has been offered by several FBS level programs* — FRIDAY NIGHT FLETCH First of all, Hightower has to remain healthy and continue to put up similar numbers to what he has before posted. In '24, Hightower was among the more versatile threats in the offensive backfield in the KHSAA. As Coach Lyon detailed in his scouting report above set forth; Hightower, as a junior, rushed for 1,604 yards in 206-carries (7.79-yards per rushing attempt). Hightower scored a TD every 10th carry in 5A football (20 rushing TDs), and tallied 138-points (20 TDs rushing, one receiving, and six two-pointers) to lead the team in scoring. Hightower contributed on offense, both rushing and

receiving. On defense, Hightower picked a pass. On special teams, Hightower converted six (6) times on two (2) point conversions. Hightower is 5’10,” and weighs 185. The 4.5-second 40-yard dasher has a 35-inch vertical leap, bench presses 290 lbs., reps the HS rep weight (185-pounds) 15-times, and squats 450 lbs. Hightower pulls 515 lbs., power cleans 230, and runs a fully automated 11-seconds flat in the 100-meters during track season. Track times are laser-timed. They are painstakingly accurate. Hightower doesn’t have to pull the weight alone. Jayden Travis (’26) is among the very best TEs in the KHSAA and a bone fide All-State candidate (25-receptions in ’24). Travion Stafford (’26, 90-tackles, three TFLs) and Kirk LaGrange (’26, 64-tackles, a FR, and 4-INTs) will help hold down the defense. Kadence Price (’27) is a weight room warhorse who is chocked full of power, strength, and explosion while Ryder Sandidge proved among the

better '27s (71-tackles, a FF, three FRs, and a pair of INTs) in the 5A classification a season ago. Don’t be fooled, having some talent in the stable ensuring a successful season is an important part of any Mr. Football race. There was a song once which always reminded me of Markezz Hightower. The song was (and still is) called Mr. Touchdown. A review of the lyrics may somewhat reveal why it makes me think of Hightower and players like him. *They always call him Mr. Touchdown. They always call him Mr. Team. He can run, and kick, and throw. Give him the ball and just look at him go! Hip, hip, hooray for Mr. Touchdown! He’s gonna beat ‘em today! So give a great big cheer for the hero of the year! It’s Mr. Touchdown, U.S.A.!* If you read this forum often, you know we put a high price on player value, player versatility, resulting in a team’s enjoying great

success. Give the lyrics above another read and hit the link and enjoy the song. Surely, we don’t have to connect these dots for you. Markezz Hightower is North’s “Mr. Touchdown.” The Maroons call him Mr. Team. Hightower can run, kick, and throw. Just give him the ball and just look at Hightower go. So give a great big cheer for the hero of the year! It’s Mr. Football, KHSAA! This is Friday Night Fletch, reporting for KPGFootball and KPI Newspaper Group, reminding you to PLAY THROUGH THE WHISTLE! If you enjoyed this article and wish to gain full-access to the site, then subscribe monthly to Kentucky Prep Gridiron by following the prompts! © The information contained on this site is the copyrighted intellectual property of KPGFootball. Any unauthorized dissemination of this material without the author’s express written consent is strictly prohibited!



Fromeyer named 2024-25 KHSAA Officials Supervisor of the Year

Staff Report

LEXINGTON — Each year, the Kentucky High School Athletic Association honors the top officials for the sports in which it licenses officials, as well as a single supervisor of officials from among those sports. Finalists in each sport are selected through a combination of not only on-field performance but also local association activity and leadership, training efforts and the mentoring of newer officials. In addition to

one official in each sport being named Outstanding Official of the Year, the KHSAA also recognizes the Larry G. Boucher Officials Supervisor of the Year in appreciation of their dedication and service to schools and student-athletes across the state. Winners are selected following consultation with local assigning secretaries, veteran officials’ observers, coaches throughout the state and additional staff review. The Larry G. Boucher Officials Supervisor of

the Year for the 2024-25 school year is Steve Fromeyer of Newport for his outstanding efforts in the sport of football. With officiating numbers declining at the national level, the KHSAA is always accepting applications from individuals interested in giving back to their community. Officiating remains an avenue to stay active, earn extra spending money and ensure that high school athletics are preserved for the current and future generations.

To get involved as an official, visit khsaaofficials.org. *2024-25 KHSAA OUTSTANDING OFFICIALS (Winners listed first)* Field Hockey: Chris Niblock (Louisville), Lauren Bauer (Louisville) Soccer: Azer Sabanovic (Louisville), Darren Somerville (Irvine) Girls’ Volleyball: Dave Anderson (Grayson), Justin Cason (Lexington) Football: Hilton Isable (Bowling Green), Jason

Seligman (Covington), Henry Hays (London) Wrestling: Philip Hayes (Louisville), Jason Sedoris (Louisville) Swimming & Diving: Lesa Boone (Louisville), Allyson Heger (Independence) Basketball: Michael Ashurst (Corbin), Nathan Sutton (Greenup), Brian Yankey (Pineville), Michael Stokes (Fort Mitchell) Boys’ Volleyball: Tony Franklin (Franklin), Tim Lynch (Louisville) Girls’ Lacrosse: Mary Cooksey (Louisville),

Matt Sallee (Louisville) Boys’ Lacrosse: Andy Cecil (Winchester), Chris Bray (Louisville) Track & Field: Kenny Morton (Louisville), Mark Roche (Louisville) Softball: Stephanie Welch (Louisville), Brian Epperson (Murray), Tony Wagner (Villa Hills) Baseball: Tony Thornsburg (Covington), Adam Hale (Glendale), Darron HYTE (Tamm, Ill.) Larry G. Boucher Officials Supervisor of the Year (Football): Steve Fromeyer (Newport)

Gov. Beshear announces Kentucky State Police arrests 197 in statewide drug operation

Operation Summer Heat 2.0 removes over \$640,000 total value of drugs off the streets

FRANKFORT, Ky. – Today, Gov. Andy Beshear announced that a New Kentucky Home is being created with fewer illegal drugs on the streets harming our families. The Kentucky State Police completed a successful Operation Summer Heat 2.0, targeting suspected drug networks operating in the commonwealth and leading to 197 arrests. “Every Kentuckian should be safe and feel safe, and no Kentucky family should feel the pain of losing a loved one to addiction,” Gov. Beshear said. “Because of the Kentucky State Police, we are accomplishing both of these goals, and we are thankful for the agency’s dedication to every single one of our commonwealth’s communities.” All 16 posts participated in Operation Summer Heat 2.0, and preliminary results indicate 197 arrests and 490 charges issued, along with the combined seizure

of 3,002 grams of fentanyl, 1,176 grams of cocaine, 6,046 grams of methamphetamine, 408 grams of heroin, 600 fentanyl pills, 97 hydrocodone doses, 127 oxycodone doses and 67 doses of hallucinogens. Additionally, troopers confiscated 82 firearms, \$181,381 in cash, and \$200,000 worth of stolen property and also recovered a stolen vehicle. The estimated street value of the drugs collected exceeds \$640,000. The investigation remains active, and more arrests are expected in the coming weeks. “This mission was about more than making arrests, it was about disrupting the criminal enterprises that threatens the safety and health of Kentuckians,” KSP Commissioner Phillip Burnett Jr. said. “I am proud of our personnel, who worked tirelessly to take these dangerous drugs off the streets and who will continue working to keep every community safe.” Initial arrests by

state police post:

- Post 1, Mayfield: 7
- Post 2, Madisonville: 21
- Post 3, Bowling Green: 15
- Post 4, Elizabethtown: 30
- Post 5, Campbellsburg: 10
- Post 6, Dry Ridge: 6
- Post 7, Richmond: 11
- Post 8, Morehead: 7
- Post 9, Pikeville: 30
- Post 10, Harlan: 4
- Post 11, London: 12
- Post 12, Frankfort: 2
- Post 13, Hazard: 1
- Post 14, Ashland: 16
- Post 15, Columbia: 14
- Post 16, Henderson: 11

Last year, Operation Summer Heat saw 206 people arrested and nearly \$685,000 worth of drugs removed from Kentucky streets. The Kentucky State Police encourages the public to share any information related to drug activity by contacting one of its 16 posts or submitting an anonymous tip on the agency’s website. For three straight years, overdose deaths have decreased in



Kentucky. In 2024, the commonwealth saw a 30.2% decline in overdose deaths compared to the prior year. Earlier this month, the Commonwealth of Kentucky released the 2024 Crime in Kentucky Report. The annual statewide report indicates serious crime rates have decreased by nearly 8%, including an 11.55% decrease in drug/narcotic offenses, a 12.7% decrease in homicide offenses and a 13.78% decrease in sex offenses. In February, the Governor announced that Kentucky secured another low recidivism rate. Nearly 70% of people released from state custody over the past two years have not been re-incarcerated. Since taking office, the administration has also awarded more than \$12 million in grant funding to assist state and local law enforcement agencies with enhancing public and officer safety, curbing the sale of illegal drugs and fighting addiction. *Treatment Resources* If you or a loved one are struggling with addiction, the KY HELP Call Center can connect you to treatment by calling 833-8KY-HELP (833-859-4357). Information about treatment programs all across the commonwealth is available at FindHelpNowKy.org. Information on how to obtain the life-saving drug naloxone, which is used to reverse an opioid overdose, can be found at that website as well as at FindNaloxoneNowKy.org and FindMentalHealthNowKy.org.

Soybean meal fuels #HotGrillsSummer

Summer is here and it’s time to fire up the grill. Whether you are team charcoal or team gas, or if you’re into smoking your favorite proteins, there’s one thing most items you find in the meat case have in common – they got started on soybean meal. Poultry is the number one protein commodity here in the Bluegrass state, and whether that chicken is marinated and grilled, hibachi’d on the flat top, or skewered for a kabob, soybean meal is the protein that broilers depend on for their protein in all growth stages. In addition to its high protein content, soybean meal contains the amino acids essential for growth.



Feeling more like a burger or a steak? Soybeans factor in the diets of beef cattle, too. Unless your beef is strictly grass-finished, it was finished on grain, and that means a diet of mostly soybean meal and corn. Some cattle are supplemented with pelletized soybean hulls in their feed rations. We can’t forget our friends who raise pigs. As

we like to say, pork and (soy) beans go together! Modern commercial hog production also relies on soybean meal for its high protein and complete amino acid profile. Did you know that animal agriculture is the soybean farmers’ number one customer? That’s right! About 97 percent of domestic soybean meal is fed to poultry and livestock, and many farmers raise both row crops AND chickens, cattle, or pigs. Summer is the best time for outdoor cooking, so it’s no surprise that July is National Grilling Month. We hope you’ll celebrate accordingly and enjoy #HotGrillSummer 2025. The Kentucky Soybean Board is ALL FIRED UP to make your summer even hotter. Like us on Facebook (@KySoybean) AND post your grilling photo (on your own page) with the hashtag #HotGrillSummer. Be sure to tag us, and we’ll enter you for a chance to win a 22-inch Blackstone Culinary 2-Burner Griddle with Hood and Flexfold Legs, perfect for those sizzling summer cookouts or fall tailgating parties! The prize package will also include an assortment of seasonings and a griddle care kit. Contest ends August 31. No purchase necessary. Contest open to Kentucky residents.

‘Great satisfaction’: UK forestry professor chair retires after 47 years of service

By Bailey Vandiver

LEXINGTON, Ky.— Three-time University of Kentucky alumnus Jeffrey Stringer, who dedicated 47 years of his professional career to forestry at the UK Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, is now celebrating his retirement. Stringer received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in forestry and his Ph.D. in plant physiology/ biochemistry/molecular biology, all from UK. He began in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) as a



research assistant in 1978 and held multiple roles before becoming the chair of FNR in 2018. “I have been fortunate to work in a collaborative environment that has allowed me to improve the forest, its resources and the communities it serves,” Stringer said. Steven Price, professor and interim chair of FNR, said that Stringer’s retirement marks the end of an era—not just for UK but for many people across the forestry industry who have worked with Stringer for decades. “Basically, everybody that works in forestry knows Jeff,” Price said. “His name is synonymous with the University of Kentucky’s forestry program.” ‘An outstanding representative of our college’ Stringer helped build UK’s forestry network in the UK Cooperative Extension Service from the ground up, providing direct service to foresters, landowners and natural resource professionals throughout Kentucky. His extension work included conducting

logger trainings across Kentucky. During this time, he furthered his education at UK and eventually attained roles as a research specialist in hardwood silviculture and extension professor. One of Stringer’s most enduring contributions is his role in directing the Master Logger Program which began in 1992 in partnership with the Kentucky Forest Industries Association and the Kentucky Division of Forestry. The educational program teaches logging methods to enhance the logger’s ability to operate efficiently within the framework of environmental and safety regulations. “The most gratifying work has been the development of impactful projects and programs,” Stringer said. “Whether it is spearheading the Kentucky Master Logger program, co-founding the White Oak Initiative, creating financial benefits for landowners, loggers and forest industries, or creating and transferring

science that protects the environment and the flora and fauna it contains while providing pathways for forest utilization, I have found great satisfaction.” His research efforts focused on impactful projects such as using tritiated soil water to explore and define rooting patterns in common species found in oak-hickory forests, which led to the establishment of biological methodologies for determining leakage at nuclear waste disposal sites. Additional research established methods of protecting water quality during timber harvesting operations, which resulted in improved mandatory best management practices used by loggers throughout Kentucky. Stringer has received regional, state and national honors for his work, including the title of Fellow from the Society of American Foresters and Extension Forester of the Year from the Forest Landowners Association. His recognition stretches back to his undergraduate days, when he was named Forester of the Year by Zi

Sigma Pi. “As a student, a faculty member and as a department chair, Jeff has been an outstanding representative of our college,” said Scott Smith, Martin-Gatton CAFE dean from 2001 to 2013 and current acting director of The Arboretum, State Botanical Garden of Kentucky. “During my term as dean, he was particularly active and very effective in spreading the word about both the economic and environmental values of Kentucky woodlands.” *A lasting influence* When Price was a new faculty member at UK, Stringer’s mentorship and support was “a big deal.” Stringer helped Price establish early research projects focused on reptiles and amphibians, which allowed Price to start producing scholarship quickly. More than a decade later, when Stringer retired from his role as chair, he stayed in a post-retirement appointment and helped Price step into the interim chair role. More than simply passing the torch, Price

said, Stringer made sure he had the guidance and context he needed—exhibiting Stringer’s ongoing commitment to the program. “His influence runs deeper than programming or policy,” Price said. “He shaped people’s careers, fostered trust across the state and created a model for what long-term extension and academic leadership could look like.” Even as he enjoys his retirement—including spending time with family and devoting time to beloved hobbies like fishing—Stringer hopes to continue his service to the forestry program by assisting with alumni relations and philanthropy. “Most of all, I am proud of our department and its focus on the land-grant mission of conducting useful science and delivering solutions for the betterment of society,” Stringer said. To learn more about Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of Kentucky, visit <https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/>.



Ag Update

Submitted by Tom Miller, Ballard County Extension Agent for Ag and Natural Resources

By Jennifer Elwell

The University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and Cooperative Extension Service will offer two field tour events on July 22 at its UK Research and Education Center at Princeton. The Corn, Soybean and Tobacco Field Day will be held on Tuesday morning, and the Beef and Forage Field Day will begin following a shared lunch. “As the Research and Education Center marks its 100th anniversary this year, we saw this milestone as a meaningful opportunity to welcome more regional farmers to Princeton and highlight the impactful research and extension education taking place at these facilities,” said Chad Lee, UK professor and director of the Grain and Forage

Center of Excellence, headquartered at UKREC. Wagons will roll at 8 a.m. CDT for the corn, soybean and tobacco field tour. Morning visitors will hear the grain crops agronomics and economics session, which includes updates on markets, weed science, soybean foliar fungicides, corn fertilization and an economic climate Q&A session. Visitors may also choose a session that covers topics related to tobacco or grain crop soils and Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, Altria Client Services, Kentucky Corn, Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board, Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council and Kentucky Beef Network are supporting the wagon transportation and a complimentary lunch for all



participants. Laura Stephenson, vice president for land-grant engagement and Martin-Gatton CAFE dean, will also address the audience. The afternoon beef and forage tour will include a session at the forage plots for discussions on pests, using red clover to mitigate tall fescue toxicosis, summer annual mixtures and variety trials. Once visitors are transported to the beef facilities, they will be provided information on mineral feeding design, smart scales and winter feeding systems. Registration will be open from 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 300 Extension Farm Road, off Hopkinsville Street in Princeton, Kentucky. Pre-registration is not required. Certified crop advisor and pesticide applicator continuing education credits have been approved for the corn, soybean and tobacco field tour: Grain Crop Soils / IPM Session CCA Credits – 1 CEU for Nutrient Management, 1 CEU for Integrated Pest Management Pesticide Credits – 1 CEU for Category 1a (Agricultural Plant), 1 CEU for Category 10 (Research and

Demonstration) Grain Crop Agronomic and Economic Talks CCA Credits – 1.5 CEUs for Crop Management Pesticide Credits – 1 CEU for Category 1a (Agricultural Plant) Tobacco Session CCA Credits – 1 CEU for Integrated Pest Management, 1 CEU for Crop Management Pesticide Credits – 1 CEU for Category 1a (Agricultural Plant), 1 CEU for Category 10 (Research and Demonstration) For more information, call 270-365-7541 or visit <https://ukrec.ca.uky.edu/events>. Programs of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of race, age, sex, color, religion, disability or national origin. For additional information, contact the Ballard County Extension Office, 110 Broadway, LaCenter, 665-9118.

River Valley AgCredit welcomes Bobby Shaffer

Clinton, KY – River Valley AgCredit is proud to announce the addition of Bobby Shaffer as a Loan Officer at the Clinton office. He brings a strong agriculture background and a commitment to helping farmers build a sustainable future. A native of Hornbeak, Tennessee, Bobby joins River

Valley AgCredit with seven years of industry experience and a deep-rooted connection to agriculture. He holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture science from Murray State University, where he graduated in 2020. His hands-on experience includes five years of row crop operations – working with cotton,

corn, wheat and soybeans. He was previously employed with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Services as well. Bobby is a proud graduate of Obion County Central High School (Class of 2015) and an active member of Grace Presbyterian Church in Troy, Tennessee. He resides in Fulton County with

his wife, Breannon, and their son, Waylon. In Bobby's spare time he enjoys, reading, studying, hunting, fishing, gardening and billiards. In his new role, Bobby is excited to assist farmers in building their futures and supporting the next generation of farmers. “What excites me most

about this position is the opportunity to make a positive, long-lasting impact in our community while being part of a great team,” said Shaffer. “I look forward to delivering exceptional service to our members and building strong, lasting relationships.” River Valley AgCredit is thrilled

to welcome Bobby to the team and looks forward to the contributions he will make in supporting Hickman County agriculture community. If you want more information about this topic, please get in touch with Shea Weak at (270) 554-2912 or email at sweak@rvac.com.



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Uk greenhouse study offers hope for protecting, cleansing waterways

Tiny wetland replicas show big promise for clearing pesticides and “forever chemicals”

By Jordan Strickler

Lexington, Ky.—
A University of Kentucky study shows that small-scale wetlands — one planted in soil, the other floating on mats — can help clean up a mix of farm runoff, personal care products and other harmful chemicals. Researchers at UK’s Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment found that these wetlands can reduce not only “forever chemicals” but also nutrients that fuel algal blooms in Kentucky rivers.

This work on mesocosms, published in the Science of Total Environment, forms

the centerpiece of an ongoing project led by water resources engineer Tiffany Messer, The Bill Gatton Foundation Endowed Chair and associate professor in the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering.

A mesocosm is an experimental system that examines the natural environment under controlled conditions.

“Mesocosms are a powerful tool because they let us isolate key variables while still mimicking field conditions,” Messer said. “It’s an essential step when trying to understand how these systems perform outside the lab.”

Messer’s team built 40 waist-high tanks that mimic treatment wetlands, a nature-based alternative to concrete wastewater facilities now serving several Kentucky towns. Emily Nottingham Byers, lead author and postdoctoral scholar at the Kentucky Water Research Institute at the University of Kentucky, stocked half the tanks with marshy soil and bulrush. The remaining tanks held identical vegetation on polyethylene rafts, so the roots dangled freely in the water. Each tank received measured doses of four widely encountered contaminants — glyphosate, atrazine, caffeine and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) — along with nitrate to simulate the runoff that flows toward rivers often used as drinking-water intakes.

“Those four contaminants turn up again and again in our stream surveys,” said Messer, referring to a 2024 paper that first mapped 77 pollutants across Kentucky watersheds. “We wanted to know whether they would hamper nitrogen removal through microbial processes in a controlled setting, and whether the plants could lock any of the pollutants away in their tissue.”

In the first month, soil-based cells had a slight advantage: their submerged root zones and resident microbes effectively eliminated nearly half the nitrate load while also removing PFOS and atrazine by approximately one-third from the water.

As summer heat spurred growth, the floating treatment wetlands overtook their grounded counterparts, cutting nitrate to background levels and trimming 70% of each herbicide.

“The mat systems become living filters,” said Messer. “Once the root curtains reach full length, every liter of water that flows through its microbial habitat has an opportunity to be removed from the water.”

Plant tissue analysis shed light on where the chemicals ended up. Most of the glyphosate and PFOS built up in stems and leaves above the water, suggesting that simple mowing or pruning each year could help keep those pollutants from reentering the water. Atrazine lodged deeper in the root mass, calling for removal of the entire plant if targets for that herbicide tighten. Caffeine and its metabolite paraxanthine followed a split pattern: half in foliage, half in roots.

Charting the future
Wetlands take up more space than concrete basins, so adoption depends on local priorities and state clean-water funding. Some Kentucky communities already use wetlands to treat wastewater, and Messer hopes to work with county engineers to test pilot cells below existing lagoon systems.

The study offers tips for designing wetlands based on local needs. The soil-filled basins act quickly early in the growing

season, making them a fit for communities that see heavy inflows in spring. However, floating mats were shown to deliver stronger late-summer performance when rivers shrink and contaminant concentrations rise. Managers can also time harvests based on the main chemical they want to remove — trimming leaves for PFOS or removing full plants for atrazine.

Messer stresses that these are treatment systems, not wildlife preserves.

“They’re pretty, but they aren’t fishing ponds,” said Messer. “The goal is to protect aquatic life in the receiving stream by polishing what leaves wastewater outfalls and land use practices.”

The team plans on longer trials to pinpoint when wetlands reach saturation and to test whether periodic plant harvest resets their capacity. They also intend to explore low-cost options such as biochar or iron filings placed beneath mats to target sulfate, the lone contaminant that eluded removal in the greenhouse.

BAE is a partnership between Martin-Gatton CAFE and the Stanley and Karen Pigman College of Engineering. To learn more, visit <https://bae.ca.uky.edu/>.

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DAISY,
From front page

two weeks. Kaylynn consulted social work so that they could give the patient a list of resources for the area. Upon discharging the patient that day, we were talking. She said that Kaylynn told her that she had connections to a different food bank in the area. That very day that the patient was discharging, Kaylynn had a box of food from the food bank delivered straight to the patients front door. The patient was very grateful for all the care that she

received, but Nurse Kaylynn went above and beyond for this patient. Not only did she have the food delivered, but she also took away the patient’s anxiety and grief over not being able to feed her and her husband for the next two weeks.”

To nominate a nurse for the DAISY Award, visit <http://www.daisynomination.org/0017000001MfitGAAR>.

To learn more about career opportunities at Baptist Health Paducah, visit BaptistHealth.com/Careers.



Paducah Chamber had an amazing turnout at the recent PYPickleball event with our Summer Interns and Paducah Young Professionals! Thank you to everyone who joined us on the courts for a fantastic evening of fun, networking, and friendly competition. Thank you to our sponsor, Advantage Insurance Services, LLC, for making this event possible. We’re also grateful to Nancy Sutton and the “Pickleball Squad” for sharing their time, equipment and expertise. And thank you to Paducah Parks for allowing us to reserve the courts. We can’t wait to see you all again soon—stay tuned for more exciting PYP events! Not a PYP member? Join today: <https://www.paducahchamber.org/programs/join-paducah-young-professionals/>

Photo submitted

Delta Regional Authority invests over \$1.5 million to address infrastructure needs in 13 communities

Clarksdale, Miss. – The Delta Regional Authority (DRA) has awarded more than \$1.5 million to 13 communities across Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee in its first round of funding through the Strategic Planning Program, which provides communities within DRA’s eight-state service region with the necessary resources to develop strategies that maximize opportunities in public infrastructure, workforce development, and small business development and entrepreneurship.

“The Strategic Planning Program gives public entities

across DRA’s footprint the ability to address long-standing challenges and to develop a course of action for economic growth and revitalization,” said Dr. Corey Wiggins, Federal Co-Chairman. “This investment will better position communities to build stronger foundations for future development and sustained infrastructure improvements.”

With grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$150,000, the Strategic Planning Program provides communities in the lower Mississippi River Delta and Alabama Black Belt regions with the necessary resources to develop roadmaps for economic development, such

as comprehensive economic development plans, preliminary engineering reports, utility rate studies, feasibility studies, workforce development plans and broadband deployment plans.

First-Round 2025 Strategic Planning Program award recipients include:

ALABAMA
West AlabamaWorks was awarded \$142,000 to develop a strategic plan that assesses its organizational capacity and refines existing workforce programs to better serve jobs seekers and employers across its five-county region, including Greene, Hale, Marengo, Pickens and Sumter.

Main Street Marion was awarded \$148,000 to expand its redevelopment plan focused on workforce, small business and infrastructure improvements in Marion, Ala.

ARKANSAS
City of Osceola was awarded \$100,000 for a feasibility study on building a fiber optic broadband network that will service the Osceola Municipal Light and Power utility service area to offer state-of-the-art connectivity for current residents and businesses and to attract new industries.

City of Dumas was awarded more than \$117,000 to develop a business and workforce development plan that will serve as an economic revitalization roadmap for the city.

ILLINOIS
Akin Water District was awarded \$149,000 to develop a strategic plan that assesses the condition of its aging water infrastructure and provides recommendations to modernize its water distribution system.

KENTUCKY
Lyon County Fiscal Court was awarded \$150,000 to conduct a feasibility study on the regionalization of water and wastewater systems serving the county to improve service delivery, financial sustainability and

economic growth.

LOUISIANA
Town of Haynesville was awarded more than \$134,000 to create a strategic plan that develops a roadmap for improving public infrastructure and supporting a local workforce and business ecosystem.

City of Oakdale was awarded more than \$148,000 to complete a comprehensive assessment of the city’s drainage system to encourage economic stability and improve overall quality of life.

MISSISSIPPI
City of Canton was awarded \$145,000 to develop a transportation plan that improves infrastructure and fosters a more connected and livable community.

City of Port Gibson was awarded more than \$90,000 to create a workforce and business development plan aligned with community revitalization.

MISSOURI
City of Potosi was awarded \$80,000 to update a comprehensive plan, which will reflect the growth and changing needs and conditions of the community, guiding the physical development and long-term needs of Potosi over the next 20 years.

City of Kennett was awarded more than \$56,000 to develop a comprehensive plan focused on job creation

and infrastructure improvements critically needed to aid in chartering a plan for the city’s future.

TENNESSEE
Town of Stanton was awarded more than \$129,000 to create a downtown revitalization master plan aimed at attracting new businesses.

DRA is currently accepting applications for the second round of the 2025 Strategic Planning Program. The application deadline is Friday, Aug. 1. To learn more about the Strategic Planning Program or to apply, visit www.dra.gov.

###

About the Delta Regional Authority
The DRA was established in 2000 as a formal framework for joint federal-state collaboration to promote and encourage the economic development of the lower Mississippi River and Alabama Black Belt regions. To fulfill this purpose, DRA invests in projects supporting transportation infrastructure, basic public infrastructure, workforce training and business development. DRA’s region encompasses 255 counties and parishes in parts of Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee.

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FARMERS' Quarterly



THE LATEST IN AGRI NEWS



Kentucky farmers face growing challenges amid economic and environmental pressures

By Wilbur Jackson
KPI Writer

Kentucky's farmers are facing an increasingly difficult landscape as a combination of economic, environmental, and biological threats impact the agricultural industry across the state. From rising input costs and unpredictable weather to the spread of invasive pests and livestock health concerns, producers are being forced to adapt

rapidly to protect their livelihoods.

Economic Pressures and Rising Costs

One of the most pressing issues for Kentucky farmers is the rising cost of doing business. Fertilizer, fuel, feed, and equipment prices have soared over the past two years, in part due to global supply chain disruptions and inflation. According to data from the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture,

fertilizer costs alone have increased by more than 60% since 2022, putting a major strain on both small and large operations.

Many farmers are also grappling with fluctuating commodity prices. While corn and soybean prices saw highs in recent years, volatility in global markets and shifting demand have made it difficult for producers to plan or budget long term. For livestock farmers, the cost of feed and veterinary care continues to

climb, eating into already thin profit margins.

Weather Extremes and Climate Concerns

Kentucky's changing climate is another major concern. Unpredictable rainfall, extreme heat, and sudden cold snaps have disrupted planting and harvest schedules, damaged crops, and stressed livestock. In 2023,

see *FARMERS*,
page A4

UK Extension launches strike teams

A new response and recovery initiative to weather disasters

By Christopher Carney

LEXINGTON, Ky.—Kentuckians have experienced several recent weather-related disasters, causing significant damage to infrastructure and communities across the Commonwealth. “Kentucky has experienced an increase in ‘billion dollar’ weather disasters — a total of 92 impacting the area since 1980, with seven of those devastating

events occurring in 2024 alone,” said University of Kentucky senior meteorologist Matt Dixon.

Kayla Watts, who was previously an extension agent in Breathitt County, remembers watching the North Fork Kentucky River in Jackson, Kentucky, in 2022 continue to rise as the flooding began to make its way into town.

see *WEATHER*,
page A6



UK Cooperative Extension Agent Dora Centers delivers a bucket of cleaning supplies to residents in Eastern Kentucky affected by flooding.

Photo by Martin-Gatton CAFE



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GSI launches SELECT IS 3i:

A smarter, stronger enclosed belt conveyor

By Laurna Todd
FQ Writer

GSI is excited to introduce the newly redesigned Select IS 3i Enclosed Belt Conveyor, the latest advancement in its commercial material handling portfolio. Engineered for high performance and durability, the Select IS 3i boasts higher capacity, reduced maintenance, and an extended service life, all within a more compact footprint.

Smarter by Design

Jason Workman from Workman Bins in Mayfield, KY, states, "The Select IS 3i is more than just an upgrade; it is a game-changer in bulk material transport. With capacities of up to 95,000 bushels per hour, it outperforms traditional spool conveyors while occupying less space. Its self-contained, independent idler system reduces both belt and idler wear, minimizing maintenance and maximizing uptime. Additionally, this design requires smaller structural support, which lowers installation costs and facilitates easier integration into existing operations."

Engineered for Tough Jobs

"Enclosed belt conveyors are ideal for efficiently and gently moving dry bulk materials," says Joe Amaro, Product Manager at GSI. "The 3i's independent idler design not only enhances capacity but also extends the life of key components. It is built to move more material with less wear."

Part of a Complete Grain Handling System

With the launch of the Select IS 3i, GSI stands out as one of the few companies offering both spool and independent idler systems. This variety provides producers with the flexibility to choose the right solution for their operations. The 3i

complements GSI's trusted grain handling solutions, which include EVO 2X commercial bins, industry-leading dryers, and custom material handling systems.

Your Trusted Partner

Workman adds, "One of the many things I appreciate about GSI is their dedication to protecting your grain investment through

innovative technology, robust equipment, and unparalleled support. They ensure that your operation runs smoothly from start to finish."

Workman Bins in Mayfield is a proud authorized dealer of GSI and is available to answer any questions. They emphasize, "Farming is more than a business; it's a tradition. GSI's quality speaks for itself."



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FARMERS,
from page A1

several counties experienced both drought conditions and flash flooding within the same season,

demonstrating the new level of unpredictability in farming.

These climate challenges also increase the risk of crop diseases and

reduce soil health. More farmers are turning to cover cropping, no-till methods, and advanced irrigation systems to combat these issues, but such solutions often

require significant investment.

Pests, Disease, and Livestock Health

In 2024 and into 2025, Kentucky farmers saw a resurgence of pest and disease problems. Most notably, the spread of flesh-eating maggots (myiasis) in livestock has caused alarm across rural communities. These infestations, caused by parasitic fly larvae, can lead to severe infections or even death in animals. The government has responded with large-scale sterile fly releases to combat the problem, but the situation remains a top concern for cattle and sheep producers.

Crop farmers, too, have been hit by

increased pressure from invasive species like the fall armyworm, stink bugs, and herbicide-resistant weeds, which require more aggressive and costly control measures.

Labor Shortages and Mental Health Struggles

Adding to these issues is the persistent shortage of agricultural labor. Many Kentucky farms, especially those involved in produce or tobacco production, rely on seasonal workers. However, tighter immigration policies and rural population decline have made labor harder to find and more expensive to secure.

These pressures take a toll on the well-being of farmers themselves.

Mental health support in rural areas remains limited, despite rising rates of stress, anxiety, and burnout among farm families.

Looking Ahead

While Kentucky farmers continue to demonstrate resilience and adaptability, the challenges they face are real and mounting. Addressing these issues will require strong support from state agencies, improved access to resources, and investment in sustainable farming technologies. The future of Kentucky agriculture depends not only on weathering today's storms, but on building long-term solutions for a changing world.



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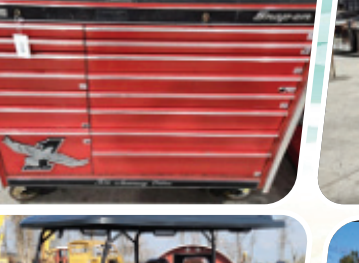
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10 reasons to thank a farmer

#10 Americans spend only 10% of their incomes on food.

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#9 The world's population will grow from 7 million to 9 million by 2050. Farmers will need to double food production to keep pace.

#8 Only 210,000 full-time U.S. farmers produce 80% of our food and fiber.

#7 Most farms are family owned. These families take on exceptional risk and tight margins in order to make ends meet.

#6 For every o\$1 spent on food, farmers receive less than 12¢ for the raw products.

#5 An average U.S. farmer feeds 155 people.

#4 U.S. farmers produce about 40% of the world's corn.

#3 Agriculture provides 24 million jobs.

2 Farmers endure drought, heat, rain, wind, snow, hail and tornadoes to bring food to America's tables.

#1 American's enjoy a food that's abundant, affordable & among the world's safest.

GrainVue:

Your ultimate partner in grain storage management

By **Laurna Todd**
FQ Writer

Workman Bins, Inc. in Mayfield, KY, is thrilled to bring farmers GrainVue, a cutting-edge grain monitoring and aeration management system designed to empower farmers like you by safeguarding stored grain and enhancing efficiency. In a world where weather patterns can be unpredictable, GrainVue equips you with the advanced technology necessary to uphold grain quality, prevent spoilage, and curb energy costs.

GrainVue operates through innovative components strategically placed at the top and bottom of your grain bin. At the top, you'll find digital cables that diligently gather vital data on grain moisture, temperature, and inventory levels. You can also add CO2 monitoring to the headspace which can detect spoilage faster than the cables, as well as insect infestations. This essential information is relayed to

a cable hub, which effectively communicates with the system's base units.

Down at the bottom of the bin, an automated fan control module takes charge of fan and if equipped heater operation, while a smart weather sensor keeps a watchful eye on outdoor conditions. To ensure optimal airflow within the bin, the plenum sensor monitors air quality. Additionally, the communications gateway, equipped with a built-in cellular connection, transmits all collected data to the cloud, needing just one gateway per bin site. A secondary cable hub then wirelessly relays data to the gateway, ensuring smooth and uninterrupted communication across the entire system.

GrainVue makes aeration management a breeze, eliminating the uncertainty often associated with grain storage. With several aeration modes at your fingertips, you can choose what works best for your situation:

- Remote Control:



Easily operate fans from your mobile device, giving you the flexibility to manage operations from anywhere.

- Automatic: Enjoy hands-free operation as fans automatically kick in when weather conditions align with your target moisture and temperature levels. This mode also helps to rehydrate overly dry soybeans.

- Automatic Heater: In addition to automatic fan operation, low-temperature heaters engage as needed,

ensuring optimal airflow conditions for your grain.

- Smart Drying: GrainVue takes precision to the next level by adjusting fan usage based on the specific grain and weather conditions. It gently dries your grain to your desired moisture target, utilizing fans only when they are truly beneficial.

- Smart Storage: This energy-efficient mode autonomously adjusts fan usage to warm or cool grain according to

external temperature changes, giving you peace of mind all year round.

With GrainVue, Workman Bins, Inc. is dedicated to helping farmers not only protect their investments but also streamline grain storage management processes, allowing you to focus on what you do best.

Jason Workman, Workman Bins founder, takes pride in collaborating with GSI to offer GrainVue Moisture

and Temperature Monitoring Cables. He understands the significant investments farmers make throughout the seasons to bring crops to harvest. By utilizing this monitoring system, farmers gain a clearer view of the conditions inside their bins, allowing them to avoid costly mistakes like over-drying or under-drying crops. This would take out a lot of the guesswork of grain management, which gives you more peace of mind.

In today's economy, where every dollar matters, GrainVue is designed to save you money in the long run. Plus, our system proactively alerts farmers about excessive energy usage, helping you avoid unnecessary expenses that could contribute to crop spoilage.

So why wait? Join us on this exciting journey towards efficient grain storage and management with GrainVue, and enjoy a seamless farming experience!

UK hosts international study abroad experience

By **Christopher Carney**

LEXINGTON, Ky.—The University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, with leadership from UK Ag Equine Programs and the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, recently partnered with France's UniLaSalle — inviting a group of their students pursuing an Executive Master's degree in Equine Science and Business (MESB) for a unique study abroad experience.

For 15 days, students engaged with more than 30 groups — ranging from industry groups and nonprofits to horse farms and academic and research units across UK's campus, along with the broader equine community in Central Kentucky.

The goal was to showcase Kentucky's horse industry and UK's land-grant mission, providing the international students valuable lectures, site visits and hands-on learning experiences while visiting the Commonwealth for the first time. Some of the site visits included the Defender Kentucky Three-Day Event, Keeneland and the Kentucky Derby.

“The master's students



from UniLaSalle brought great enthusiasm and curiosity, while the Kentucky horse community warmly welcomed them and excelled in creating insightful, engaging educational experiences,” said Meghan Wulster-Radcliffe, director of strategy for equine initiatives at Martin-Gatton CAFE and lead program organizer.

This year's initiative marked this program's return, which was originally developed and led by Laurie Lawrence, professor in the UK Ag Equine Programs and Department of Animal and Food Sciences at Martin-Gatton CAFE, prior to being placed on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the leadership of Wulster-Radcliffe and

Eslan, relaunching this year's program welcomed seven master's students, two professors and an innovation development engineer from UniLaSalle. Organizers are planning to expand participation in 2026 and are exploring adding UK student participation starting in 2027.

Partners, organizations and farms

Additional participants included Alltech, James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits, Bennie Sargent Quarter Horses, Blue Diamond Stud at Stonereath Farm, Defender Kentucky Three Day Event, Fayette Alliance, Godolphin at Jonabell Farm, Gluck Equine Research Center, Grey Ridge Farm, Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, Hallway Feeds, Jacobi Insurance,

Keeneland, Kentucky Horse Park, Lakeside Arena, Maine Chance Farm, Maplecrest Farm, Mill Ridge Farm, Olive Hill Sport Horses, Racing Surface Testing Laboratory, Sports Medicine Research Institute, Spy Coast Farm, Stable Recovery, Three Chimneys Farm, The Jockey Club, UK College of Health Sciences/SMRI, UK Department of Agricultural Economics, UK Forage Extension Program, UK Department of Veterinary Science, United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and World Equestrian Brands.

Learn more about UK Ag Equine Programs at <https://equine.ca.uky.edu> and the Department of Animal and Food Sciences at <https://afs.ca.uky.edu>

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WEATHER,
from page A1

“It looked like a wall of water — it was scary because we didn’t know how high it would get, and parts of town were evacuated due to the rising river water,” said Watts, now a UK area extension director. “Many folks said that they didn’t have time to get their possessions. Everything was just gone. We just weren’t prepared for something like this.”

Along with ongoing damage caused by recent storms this year in Kentucky, this sparked Watts and other extension leaders to begin assessing local and statewide needs to determine what communities and individuals needed to be better prepare, respond and recover.

Kentucky Extension Strike Team is formed

The UK Cooperative Extension Service at the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, in collaboration with Kentucky State University, has launched a new initiative to help advance the state’s disaster preparedness and recovery capabilities — developing strike teams to better respond and reduce the impact of disasters through research-based education.

Made possible through a partnership and grant from the Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN), this

initiative is helping address the pressing need for a more coordinated and effective disaster response in Kentucky and beyond.

“This initiative will allow Extension leaders to learn from established strike team models and, crucially, implement a pilot strike team program within Kentucky Cooperative Extension,” said Jeff Young, Kentucky Extension strike team project leader and director of urban extension at Martin-Gatton CAFE.

“Furthermore, the development of a national toolkit provides a roadmap for other states to build their own resilient disaster response networks.”

These specialized strike teams, composed of trained county agents and staff in Kentucky, will provide crucial on-the-ground support to communities impacted by disasters.

Watts, who worked with Young in writing the EDEN grant proposal and is one of the approximately 40 strike team members in Kentucky, believes that organization is key.

“Many people want to help, but it must be streamlined,” Watts said. “These strike teams are a ready-made, trained group who are ready to help and provide relief. As a strike team member, you are working in coordination with your county’s emergency plan. In our trainings, we are now stressing the importance of preparedness, support and recovery.”



Training with members of the Nelson County Emergency Management.

Photo provided by Danielle Hagler

Kentucky strike team member Danielle Hagler, Nelson County Cooperative Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences, adds that collaboration and working with community leaders is essential.

“Our extension agents that are strike team members all have different passions, skills and talents. Based on everyone’s area of expertise, we can all help each other in areas where we need support,” Hagler said. “Working with our city officials, first responders and emergency management is also crucial to be better prepared and organized. We all must work together.”

Kentucky EDEN is a collaborative multi-

state effort supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture and Cooperative Extension Services across the country to reduce the impact of disasters through research-based education. The Kentucky Emergency Management and the Kentucky Department of Public Health are also collaborative partners with the Kentucky EDEN project team.

Visit <https://anr.ca.uky.edu/extensionhelps> to learn more about the Kentucky EDEN initiative, along with education resources in disaster recovery and preparedness.

To learn more about the UK Cooperative Extension Service programs,

visit <https://extension.ca.uky.edu> or contact your local County Extension Office.

This material is based upon work that is supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under agreement number 2023-37623-40794. Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Department of Agriculture.

About EDEN

EDEN is a collaborative network of Cooperative Extension educators across the United States and territories who work to improve the delivery of education and information and the availability of resources related to disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

Historically, this grassroots network has been aligned with the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) and supported by USDA NIFA through the Food and Agricultural Defense Initiative (FADI) grant.

EDEN continues to grow programming and service to populations served by 1890 land-grant

institutions, Native American tribal councils and populations served by 1994 land-grant institutions, and Hispanic Serving Institutions.

The Extension Foundation, in partnership with Washington State University and the Cooperative Extension System, supports the administration of the FADI-EDEN project. Learn more about EDEN at <https://extensiondisaster.net>.

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Recent storms with heavy rains have caused extensive flooding and damage in Kentucky.

Photo by Martn-Gatton CAFE

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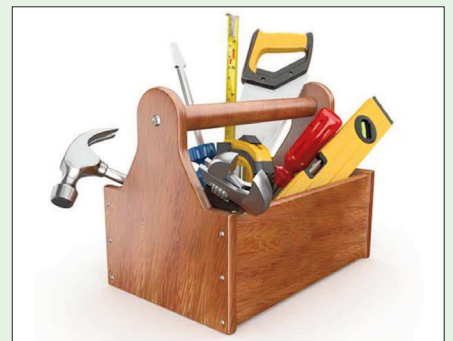
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Former 4-H state and extension program leader Joe Kurth recently passed away, leaving a legacy of many accomplishments and contributions to youth development in Kentucky and beyond

By Christopher Carney

LEXINGTON, Ky.—
“I envision a program in which staff, volunteers, agency partners, funding partners and communities work together for the

ultimate good of each Kentucky child,” Joe Kurth said when he was named the new assistant extension director for 4-H Youth Development at the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of

Agriculture, Food and Environment back in 2003.
Until Kurth’s recent passing, he dedicated his life to making this vision become a reality — impacting countless people, while being an advocate for Kentucky

4-H youth and programming, spanning 50 years.
Bob O’Brien, Kurth’s administrative assistant for seven years, was “immediately impressed.”
“We could tell right away that Joe would be a strong advocate for 4-H,” O’Brien said. “He empowered us, and the agents really liked Joe. He knew our worth and value. He encouraged his people and wasn’t afraid to advocate for us and our ideas.”

Kurth’s endless supply of enthusiasm, genuine spirit and compassion for youth, volunteers and extension professionals were just some of his characteristics that helped him build and sustain meaningful relationships. His servant leadership approach helped Kurth and the 4-H team build and grow 4-H’s international capacity and membership.

“Dr. Kurth brought a sense of stability and vision to the Kentucky 4-H program,” said Chuck Stamper, UK extension special projects coordinator of 4-H Youth Development at Martin-Gatton CAFE. “He always wanted to move the program forward.”

For those that knew Kurth best, his character, charisma, integrity and leadership style are what set him apart along with an unforgettable motto. Get on the KY 4-H

bus. Don’t get left behind!
According to Stamper, this motto embodied Kurth.
Joyce Belcher, who originally hired and worked with Kurth for approximately 11 years, recalls one of his first team meetings which included the memorable analogy.

“I’ll never forget that meeting,” Belcher said. “Joe asked us to think of a school bus where he was the driver, and we were the passengers. He asked that we step on the bus with him and that it was his job to know the skills of each person to help the bus move in the right direction. This could involve moving people on the bus around or even letting them off at the next stop. This philosophy really helped people get on board or they could be left behind. We accomplished things that other people said were impossible, believing that everyone has valuable skills to offer.”

Kurth’s belief in people has extended even further for Belcher, who originally thought she wasn’t qualified for a leadership opportunity at a popular destination resort in Kentucky. After seeking Kurth’s guidance, Belcher applied for and secured the job, using Kurth’s bus school analogy to help motivate her team along the way.
“He was able to reach

down into you and make you believe in what you can do,” Belcher said. “I got that job because of Joe. Joe was there to help, and you could always call on Joe anytime. He was a wonderful man, and he believed in people.”
Remembering Joe Kurth

Growing up in Savanna, Illinois, Kurth was a member of the Tip Top Troopers 4-H Club for 10 years.

Kurth served as Area 4-H Youth Specialist for the Missouri Cooperative Extension for five years and then became state 4-H curriculum specialist at the University of Missouri – Columbia from 1981-86. During that time, he created and coordinated the National 4-H Curriculum Network.

Kurth then served as Idaho’s 4-H director from 1986-87, which doubled in size during his tenure. He chaired the writing committee and was the principal author for the 4-H International publication “And My World.”

He became State 4-H director in Washington State from 1987-93. He chaired the Development Committee for the National 4-H Curriculum Handbook, the precursor of the National 4-H Curriculum System. The statewide 4-H enrollment doubled

see **KURTH**,
page A9

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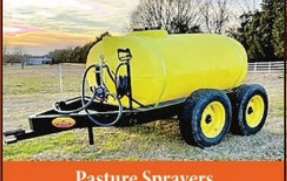
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KURTH,
from page A8

to 75,000 with only 13 full-time 4-H agents serving 40 counties.

Kurth served as the director of 4-H Programs for Iowa from 1993-2003, where participation grew from 73,000 to 130,000. He also served on the National 4-H Name and Emblem Committee for three years and served two years on the National 4-H Council Board of Directors.

In 2003, his family moved to Lexington where Kurth accepted the position of assistant director of UK Cooperative Extension for 4-H

Youth Development Programs. During this time, he served as National Chair of State 4-H Directors and as National Chair of the States' 4-H International Exchange Programs Board of Directors.

Additional accomplishments included developing the Kentucky 4-H core curriculum, securing American Camping Association accreditation for all four state 4-H camping centers, introducing Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) programs, launching the Livestock Volunteer certification/re-

certification and the Horse Volunteer certification, introducing the "4-H: A Capitol Experience" and 4-H Summit and celebrating Kentucky's 4-H Centennial.

In 2008, Kurth also led 4-H'ers in donating their state fair projects to feed the hungry. In 2010, Kurth retired from UK, concluding a career spanning approximately five decades.

He received the Kentucky 4-H Distinguished Leadership Award at the Kentucky Volunteer Forum in 2012 and was inducted into the National 4-H

Hall of Fame in 2015.

Rachel Guidugli, a 4-H member during Kurth's leadership and current assistant extension director for 4-H Youth Development shares, "Kentucky 4-H stands on the shoulders of giants, and Dr. Kurth is one of those giants. The positive impact of his contribution will be felt by young people in their clubs, communities, country and world for generations to come."

To learn more about the Kentucky 4-H Youth Development, part of the UK Cooperative Extension Service at Martin-Gatton CAFE, visit <https://4-h.ca.uky.edu>.



Joe Kurth speaking at the 4-H: A Capitol Experience in Frankfort, Kentucky (2010).

Photo provided by Martin-Gatton CAFE

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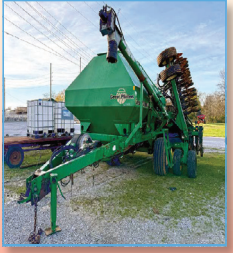
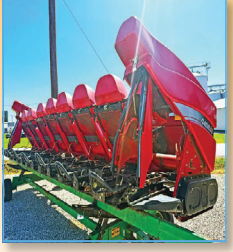
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JD 4520 Tractor, Showing 5,105 Hrs., S/N 005310R
JD 577 Round Baler, Twine Tie, 540 PTO, w/ Monitor, S/N E00557X300234
JD 1850 Drill, 30', NT, w/JD 1900 Commodity Cart, 190 Bu, S/N H01850X672028, S/N H01900T675649
GP 30' Drill
Land Pride FDR1672 Finish Mower, S/N 2060062
Kinze 1100 Grain Cart, Tracks, S/N 105127
CIH 1240 Planter, 31R, 15" Spacing, Martin Floating
Row Cleaners, NT Coulters, S/N YAS008823
King Cutter 7' Disk
NH TN755 Tractor, 445 Hrs., Open Station, MFWD,
3 SCV
3 Pt. Sprayer, 36' Booms, Fence Row Nozzles, Hyd. Folding Booms, Pump, 200 Gal Poly Tank
Hoelscher 10 Bale Accumulator, S/N 02769
JD 4830 Sprayer, 100' Booms, 1,025 Gal Stainless
Tank, 380, 90R46 Tires, Approx 3,500 Hrs., JD 2600
Display, Starfire 3000 Receiver, S/N N04830X003647
Spra Coupe 4660 Sprayer, 2,100 Hrs., 5 Section Control, Auto Steer, Perkins Engine, Allison Auto Trans, 80' Booms, S/N AGCS4660VDN8A2089
2009 CIH 7120 Combine, 2-WD, 4,365/2,984 Hrs.,
Chopper, Spreader, Lateral Tilt, 520/42 Duals, AFS Pro 600 Monitor, S/N Y9G206930
JD 6500 Sprayer, 2,312 Hrs., 60' Booms, S/N N06500X002390
1979 Ford F-350 Custom 1 Ton Truck w/Grain Panels,

4 Speed, VIN: F37SUEA4043
84" Skid Steer Bucket
72" Skid Steer Bucket
6' Pasture Aerator - 3 Pt.
8' Aerator - 3 Pt.
Pallet Forks - JD Pin Hookup
Pallet Forks - Skid Steer Hookup
Bale Spear - Skid Steer Hookup
Bale Spear - JD Pin Hookup
Bale Spear - Global Hookup
6' Crimper
7' Crimper
6' Box Blade, Double Edge - 3 Pt.
6' Arena Rake - 3 Pt.
7' Arena Rake - 3 Pt.
78" Skid Steer Bucket
Unverferth 3750 Seed Tender
CIH 4300 30' Field Cultivator
JD 1850 30' Drill w/JD 787 Air Cart
8 Shank Stripper Ripper
JD 787 Air Cart
6 Shank Ripper, NT, Shear Bolt
Hesston 565T Round Baler, Twine Tie
2007 JD 8430 Tractor, 6,060 Hrs., Powershift, ILS Front
NH 316 Square Baler
JD 9750 Combine, 3,000 Sep. Hrs. Estimated, S/N H09750685912
JD 635F Platform, S/N 1H00635FHA0737381
JD 9510 Combine, 2-WD, 3,225/2,020 Hrs
JD 693 Corn Head
JD 922 Platform
66" Skid Steer Bucket 'New'
LS 7040 Tractor
Work Saver Rock Grapple - Skid Steer Hookup
2015 JD 5085E Tractor, MFWD, 1,802 Hrs., C/H/A,
12.4-24 Front Tires, 18.4-30 Rear Tires, JD H240 Loader w/Bucket, 2 SCV, 12 Speed, LHR, S/N 1LV5085ELFY441789

2001 JD 5105 Tractor, 2-WD, Canopy, Hrs Unknown,
JD 522 Loader w/Bucket, 9.5-15 Front Tires, 16.9-28 Rear Tires, 1 SCV, 540 PTO, 12 Speed, S/N LV5105C211559
1982 JD 2940 Tractor, 5,672 Hrs., 2-WD, Canopy,
10.00-16 Front Tires, 18.4-34 Rear Tires, 2 SCV, 540/1000 PTO, 8 Speed, S/N 411864
2015 JD 6125M Tractor, MFWD, C/H/A, 4,103 Hrs.,
14.9-24 Front Tires, 18.4-34 Rear Tires, JD H260 Loader w/Bucket, 3 SCV, 540/1000 PTO, 24 Speed
PowrQuad, LHR, S/N 1L06125MCEG815340
Kubota L6060 HSTC Tractor, MFWD, C/H/A, 207 Hrs., 9.5-16 Front Tires, 14.9-26 Rear Tires, Kubota LA1055 Loader w/ Bucket, 1 SCV, 540 PTO,
S/N KBUL5FHCLM8850714
1990 JD 4555 Tractor, 7,531 Hrs., 14L-16.1 Front Tires,
460/42 Duals, 3 SCV, 1000 PTO, 16 Speed Quad
Range, Quick Hitch, S/N RW4555H004096
2017 JD 6105E Tractor, 2,489 Hrs., 340/24 Front Tires,
460/34 Rear Tires, JD 540M Loader w/Bucket, 2 SCV,
540/1000 PTO, 12 Speed, LHR,
S/N 1P06105EEH0010135
2017 JD 2032R Compact Tractor, 264 Hrs., Canopy,
JD 220R Loader w/Bucket, JD 72D Mower Deck, 14-17.5 NHS Rear Tires, Hydrolstat, PTO, S/N 1LV2032REHH101707
Ford 601 Workmaster Tractor
2013 JD 7200R Tractor, 3,398 Hrs., 420/30 Front Tires,
480/46 Rear Duals, 4SCV, 540/1000 PTO,

20 Speed
PowrQuad, 59 GPM Hyd. Pump, 15,000# Hitch, S/N 1RW7200RCA015677
2012 JD 7215R Tractor, 4,528 Hrs., 420/30 Front Tires,
480/46 Rear Duals, 4 SCV, 540/1000 PTO, 20 Speed
PowrQuad, 43 GPM Hyd. Pump, 15,000# Hitch, S/N 1RW7215RECA007261
1997 JD 7810 Tractor, MFWD, 5,200 Hrs., 18.4-42
Duals, 3 SCV, 540/1000 PTO, 16 Speed PowrQuad,
S/N RW7810H005366
1982 JD 4440 Tractor, 6,257 Hrs., 20.8-38 Duals,
JD 158 Loader, Quad Range, S/N 4440H067573RW
1991 JD 4555 Tractor, MFWD, 5,732 Hrs., 380/30 Front
Tires, 18.4-42 Duals, 3 SCV, 1000 PTO, Powershift,
1 Owner, S/N RW4555P007094
2013 CIH 7230 Combine, 4-WD, 5,568/4,231 Hrs.,
20.8/42 Duals, Chopper, AFS Pro 700 Monitor, S/N YDG219903
2011 JD 9570 Combine, 2-WD, 1,925/1,296 Hrs.,
30.5-32 Front Tires, Chopper, Contour Master, S/N 1H09570SPB0740889
2013 CIH 3408 Corn Head, Knife Rolls, Hyd. Deck Plates, S/N YSD040204
2020 JD 708C Corn Head, Knife Rolls, Hyd. Deck
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University of Kentucky 2025 Signature Industries Career Fair set for Sept. 25



More than 400 participants from 75 UK majors and academic programs, as well as six other universities, participated in last year's career fair.

Photo by Matt Barton

By Holly Wiemers

LEXINGTON, Ky.— The annual University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment 2025 Kentucky Signature Industries Career Fair returns Sept. 25.

This event, which takes place from 1-4 p.m. ET at the Gatton Student Center on campus, will feature three Kentucky leading industries: agribusiness, distillation and equine. Registration is now open to employers, who are

encouraged to sign up by the Aug. 25 early bird deadline.

“This event will bring together employers from across three very connected industries, and I am excited to see how that opens doors of opportunities for our students,” said Savannah Robin, lecturer of career and professional development at Martin-Gatton CAFE and event co-organizer. “Participating in an event like this isn’t just about these businesses, companies or farms recruiting for

open positions—it’s about building awareness and establishing long-lasting relationships with our students that can lead to employment in the future.”

More than 400 participants from 75 UK majors and academic programs, as well as six other universities, participated in last year’s fair.

“While we are committed year-round to connecting our students with employers, our Signature Industries Career Fair is the best way to create that bridge between them and employers,” said Seth DeBolt, director of UK’s James B. Beam Institute for Kentucky Spirits.

UK Ag Equine Programs began a standalone career fair in 2009. In 2022, the college’s equine and distillation programs joined forces to provide enhanced career opportunities to Kentucky and regional college students for two of the state’s most recognized industries. This year, an agribusiness emphasis joins the career fair for job seekers and prospective employers to meet.

“We’re excited to continue creating opportunities where our students can connect directly with industry leaders, explore diverse career paths in agribusiness and agricultural economics and gain real-world insight,” said Aslihan Spaulding, chair and professor within UK’s Department of Agricultural Economics. “The fair also strengthens our alumni network, as former students return to inspire and guide the next generation—building a resilient, collaborative community rooted in agricultural advancement and innovation.”

UK alum Anthony

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see **CAREER FAIR**,
page A13

CAREER FAIR,
from page A12

Koch with Hallway Feeds shaking hands with a student at last year's career fair. Photo by Matt Barton.

Anthony Koch, Hallway Feeds director of sales and marketing, shared how attending a previous career fair as an employer was beneficial for his businesses and professional network.

"Our representatives were pleasantly surprised at the networking opportunities to meet other industry professionals and pleased with the quality and quantity of young people in attendance," Koch said. "The students were all prepared to

have professional conversations about our company and available positions."

UK students from all majors, as well as alums and the broader community, are invited to attend. Student registration will open Aug. 1. Employer registration is now open. Rates are discounted for

government and nonprofit organizations. Early bird pricing for employers ends Aug. 25.

For more information on registering, both as an attendee or employer, visit <https://students.ca.uky.edu/kentucky-signature-industries-career-fair>.



Anthony Kock with Hallway Feeds shaking hands with a UK student.

Photo by Martin-Gatton CAFE

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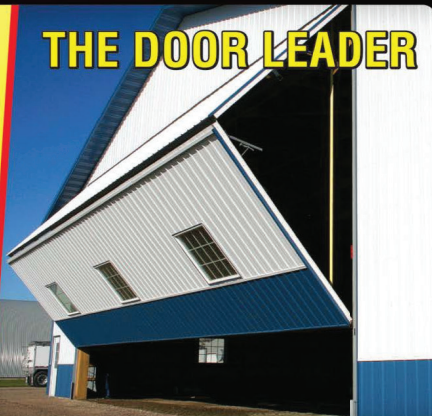
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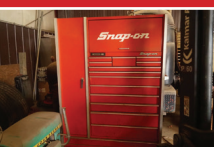
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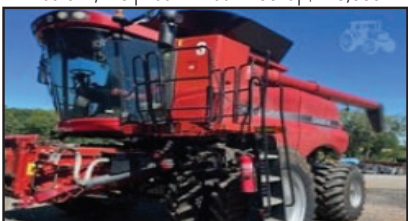
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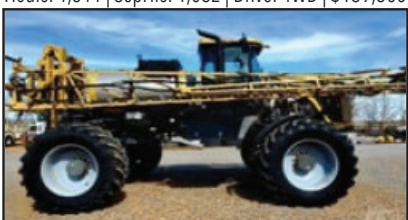
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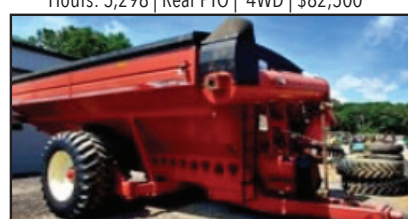
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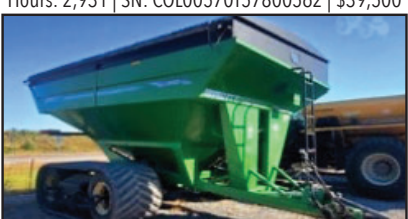
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The Kentucky Department of Agriculture welcomed 12 college interns this summer to work alongside KDA employees gaining insight into the agriculture field. Pictured are, from left, is Davis Miller, Emily Tabor, Taylor Bishop, Shelby Butler, Leslie Monhollen, Dylan Foster, Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell, Mary Brooke Stith, Rachel Cowheard, Abigail Barrett, Callie Hudson, Emily Chunglo, and Sayde Lowe.

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KY Dept. of Agriculture welcomes summer interns

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Twelve college students are interning this summer at the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) assisting KDA employees and Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell help residents across the state with agricultural needs.

“KDA’s internship program offers college students an opportunity to work side-by-side with our employees and agriculture community for a unique experience,” Commissioner Shell said. “This mentorship program can help launch careers in ag-related fields by providing a great advantage to those who want to continue in agriculture.”

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture’s summer internship program has provided opportunities for students to gain first-hand experience, knowledge, and understanding of the governmental process through pre-professional work in various occupational fields. KDA offers students studying majors both directly and indirectly relating to agriculture. Career paths of current and former interns include, but are not limited to, agriculture, education, computer science, marketing, public relations, and pre-law.

KDA interns work with KDA employees learning the various programs of the departments that make up KDA, allowing them to gain insight into considering a future career within the ag industry and with KDA.

This year’s interns have attended livestock shows, proclamations, conferences, and attended interviews with department employees. In addition, interns have worked closely with employees to develop social media promotions, help teach the public about farm safety, and work with the senior’s market and the junior chef programs.

This year’s interns are:

- Abigail Barrett, Lexington, attending University of Kentucky
- Taylor Bishop, Springfield and Greensburg, attending Morehead State University
- Shelby Butler, Mount Washington, attending University of Kentucky
- Emily Chunglo, Harrodsburg, attending Western Kentucky University
- Rachel Cowherd, Campbellsville, attending University of Kentucky
- Callie Hudson, Versailles, attending University of Tennessee
- Dylan Foster, Florence, attending Morehead State University
- Sayde Lowe, Murray, attending Murray State University
- Davis Miller, Lexington, attending Wofford College
- Leslie Monhollen, Williamsburg, attending University of Kentucky
- Mary Brooke Stith, Brandenburg, attending Murray State University
- Emily Tabor, Garfield, attending Western Kentucky University

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Celebrating 100 years of beef research and extension at the University of Kentucky Research and Education Center

Princeton, Ky. — In the mid-1920s, a determined group of Caldwell County residents took a bold leap to reshape agriculture in Western Kentucky. Pooling their resources, they purchased 400 acres of farmland near Princeton and invited the University of Kentucky to establish a forward-thinking experiment “sub-station” dedicated to crop and livestock research.

Although tobacco and soil fertility captured headlines at first, the community had something else squarely in its sight: beef cattle. From the very beginning, the promise of bigger, healthier herds fueled a pioneering spirit that would go on to transform the region’s farming landscape.

When the West Kentucky Sub-Experiment Station opened in 1925, the very first facilities included a dairy barn and modest paddocks. While dairying dominated the early livestock projects, extension agents and local producers began pushing for more research on beef cattle management, health and feeding strategies.

In 1928, the station launched its first beef-centered trial by introducing small groups of yearling steers onto improved pastures. Researchers tracked weight gains and profitability, using fields that were carefully limed and reseeded with clover. The results were dramatic: Cattle on these improved plots gained far more than those on unimproved, weedy pastures. Those findings demonstrated how better grazing practices could bolster beef production in an era when local pastures were often nutrient-poor.

By the early 1930s and 1940s, Princeton had expanded its beef work to include many studies such as feedlot-style “fattening” trials and more partnerships with surrounding producers. Fattening improvements involved better pastures.

Samual Lowry, the facility’s first superintendent, stated that “It is my belief that our brightest ray of hope for any marked increase in the agricultural wealth of Kentucky will be found



The UK Research and Education Center at Princeton has risen to the state’s premier cattle research station.

Photo by Matt Barton

in further development of our livestock industry, following the development of better pastures, and that the average farmer will of necessity be led to produce better pastures.”

In 1961, the station started a purebred Hereford breeding herd, a popular beef breed at the time. Establishing a purebred herd signaled that UKREC would be a source of improved beef genetics and breeding insight for Kentucky producers. The herd allowed researchers to conduct breeding trials, evaluate cow-calf management under Western Kentucky conditions, and raise bulls for testing.

In 1962, almost immediately after the Hereford herd was formed, the facility hosted Kentucky’s first performance-tested bull sale. This annual “Princeton Bull Sale” became a celebrated event for the next two decades, where bulls from the station’s herd (and later from cooperating breeders) were sold to farmers based on measured performance.

The 1970s and 1980s ushered in a new era of comprehensive beef research. In those years, faculty and staff recognized that a robust, uniform and well-managed herd was

essential for meaningful science.

“Our cattle herd back then was all over the place – different ages, breeds, you name it,” said Roy Burris, emeritus faculty in the Beef Center of Excellence.

The turnaround really gained steam in the early 1980s under new leadership and vision. Researchers and farm managers worked to develop a more uniform, well-managed herd (Herefords were being replaced by Black Angus) that would serve as a reliable platform for experiments.

“We essentially rebuilt the herd from the ground up,” Burris said. “They shortened the calving season so that calves were born in a tight window, and they introduced performance-based culling to remove poor producers. Over time, the Princeton herd became known for its uniformity and health and surprised a lot of people.”

Expanding research: Preconditioning and nutrition

With a solid herd in place, UKREC expanded into new areas of beef research in the late 20th century. One major focus became “preconditioning” – the process of preparing weaned calves for the next stage of production

through vaccinations, weaning, and nutrition protocols. Kentucky was an early adopter of preconditioning programs (like the state’s renowned CPH-45 feeder calf sales) and UKREC provided the science to back them up.

Station experts studied how preconditioning affects calf weight gain and health, demonstrating that calves managed under these protocols brought producers higher returns at market and reduced sickness.

“We proved what our producers suspected – investing in herd health before sales pay off,” Burris said.

Nutrition research also took off. UKREC researchers investigated optimal feed programs for cow-calf operations, from improved pasture forages to supplemental feeding strategies during winter.

In the 1990s, partnerships with UK’s Lexington campus allowed the facility to analyze cattle feed efficiency and growth at a deeper level. Nutritionists in Lexington ran lab tests on forage quality, while UKREC staff conducted feeding trials on-site. This tag-team approach led to advances in using by-product feeds (like distillers’ grains from the bourbon industry)

and refining mineral supplementation to prevent deficiencies in Kentucky herds.

Future growth, lasting commitment

In recent years, UKREC has embraced cutting-edge technology, including “smart” ear tags to measure animal behavior and alert herd managers and researchers to animal health concerns and reproductive performance. The herd has also undergone genomic testing to learn more about the genetics of individual animals within the herd.

The unit has also utilized technology to measure individual animal feed and mineral intake, which is a powerful tool in nutrition studies. Animals within the herd have been managed under two different mineral supplementation strategies for over 15 years to study the impact of selenium source on animal performance and reproduction.

Results from this work have been incorporated into industry recommendations to help producers combat selenium deficiency, which is a common challenge in the Commonwealth and region.

“One of the reasons this work has been so

impactful is that the amount of selenium that can be fed to livestock is regulated, so producers cannot simply feed more selenium to combat deficiencies, but they can feed a better type of selenium,” said Katherine VanValin, assistant professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences at UKREC.

While technology assists researchers with collecting cutting-edge data from cattle out on pasture, these technologies also represent future opportunities for Kentucky’s beef producers, with a secondary goal of determining how these technologies can be adopted and utilized by producers to improve efficiency on their own operations.

The unit is also the future home of the Beef Extension Education Farm, which will provide a location for producers to see demonstrations of best management practices in a practical environment and participate in hands-on experiential learning opportunities and programs. Efforts are underway to construct facilities to support these efforts and welcome producers back to the farm.

A cornerstone for Kentucky’s beef industry

After a century of progress, the UK Research and Education Center at Princeton stands as a cornerstone of Kentucky’s \$1 billion beef cattle industry. Generations of farmers have attended UKREC field days and carried new ideas home to their pastures. The facility’s influence now extends beyond state lines – other land-grant universities often look to UKREC’s beef program as a model for integrating research, extension and producer partnerships.

With its blend of heritage, research and deep ties to the community over the past 100 years, UKREC station is not only celebrating a century of beef cattle research – it’s actively building the future of beef, for Kentucky and beyond.

To see the latest UKREC beef research and how the facility is advancing the industry, visit <https://ukrec.ca.uky.edu/>.

Soybean farmers promote efficiency and savings at the most local level

Rural bridges are a major component of the initial link in the agricultural supply chain. Farmers utilize rural bridges to transport soybeans and grain from the farm to the local delivery location. The subsequent links in the agricultural supply chain will involve highways and interstates, freight railroads, inland waterways, and ports. All those links are essential to farmer profitability, but if farmers do not have access to well-maintained rural bridges, the other links in the supply chain fade in importance. If soybeans cannot take the first step in their marketing journey, the following steps will not occur.

Unfortunately, when it comes to rural bridges, the needs are significant, but the resources are limited. A rural bridge can easily cost \$250,000 to \$1 million while the total amount of annual funding to the county from federal, state, and local sources is often around \$500,000 to \$1.5 million. Given how a single rural county can often have 200-400 bridges, the need to address the challenge of maintaining and enhancing rural bridges must be addressed from the cost side of the equation and not just the revenue side. The Soy Transportation Coalition (STC) recently partnered

with a rural county to highlight an innovative concept that will provide significant cost savings while maintaining safety.

In 2024, the STC partnered with Buchanan County, Iowa, in the construction of one of the longest railroad flat car bridges in the country. Measuring 135 ft. in length by 28 feet in width, the bridge utilized six retired railroad flat cars in its construction. The final cost to construct the bridge was \$300,000. If the county employed more traditional construction methods for the bridge, the cost would have been approximately \$900,000. The county therefore saved approximately \$600,000 by utilizing the railroad flat car method. Construction of the bridge commenced on May 14 of last year and concluded on August 27 – a significantly shorter “road closed” time than what might have been with a more traditional approach to bridge replacement. Brian Keierleber, Buchanan County Engineer and the entire team at the Buchanan County Secondary Roads Department have been national leaders in utilizing innovative concepts for bridge and road construction – saving area taxpayers millions of dollars while maintaining safety



and access to the public.

“My first priority as a county engineer is maintaining and improving public safety,” Keierleber said. “Other important priorities for our team are to maintain access to the infrastructure network while being a good steward of taxpayer dollars. Unfortunately, the economic reality is that rural counties have a large quantity of rural bridges to maintain and improve while having access to stagnant and, often, declining resources to accomplish this task. The math simply does not add up. It is therefore critical that county engineers and other rural stakeholders explore and promote more cost-effective approaches to repair and replace rural bridges without compromising safety. Necessity is the mother of all invention.”

Buchanan County assumed the cost of the bridge construction. The STC provided \$15,000 to help offset the costs of pre-engineering and design. The STC also assumed the cost of positioning a video camera to capture the entire process of constructing the bridge. The two-minute time lapse video of the bridge construction can be

accessed by using the Bridge Time Lapse QR code.

“Some areas of rural America depend more on rail transportation. Other areas depend more on river transportation. However, all areas of rural America depend on a well-maintained system of roads and bridges,” says Mike Koehne, a soybean farmer from Greensburg, Indiana, and chairman of the Soy Transportation Coalition. “The Soy Transportation Coalition is very supportive of these innovative approaches to repairing and replacing rural bridges, but the reality is that many areas of the country are not familiar with them or are hesitant to try anything new. The aim of supporting this project in Buchanan County is to promote awareness of these approaches and to encourage their use in rural areas in the future.

The use of railroad flat cars to replace rural bridges has been analyzed and validated by reputable universities and research institutions. Buchanan County alone has replaced 34 bridges over the past twenty years utilizing the railroad flat car method. Earlier this year, the North Carolina Department of Transportation

announced it had replaced 40 bridges via the railroad flat car method in response to the infrastructure damage from Hurricane Helene. The North Carolina Department of Transportation announced the replaced bridges cost one-third of the normal cost of replacement.

The STC’s support of this project is a continuation of the organization’s earlier 2021 report, “Top 20 Innovations for Rural Bridge Replacement and Repair.” Railroad flat car bridges were one of the concepts prominently featured in the report. The Top 20 report, which may be accessed at www.soytransportation.org, includes numerous other bridge replacement and repair concepts that have been implemented in areas throughout rural America and have demonstrated significant cost savings.

“There has clearly been a renewed focus this year on government efficiency and the need to practice good stewardship of taxpayer dollars,” explains Mike Steenhoek, executive director of the Soy Transportation Coalition. “The condition of our nation’s rural bridges is a problem we

simply cannot spend our way out of. We need to promote ways to make the taxpayer dollar stretch further without compromising safety. The use of railroad flat cars and other innovative approaches is an opportunity to immediately achieve efficiency and cost-savings. Soybean farmers look forward to continuing to work with rural stakeholders in making this a reality.”

Established in 2007, the Soy Transportation Coalition is composed of fourteen state soybean boards, the American Soybean Association, and the United Soybean Board. The goal of the organization is to position the soybean industry to benefit from a transportation system that delivers cost effective, reliable, and competitive service.

The Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board is a voting member of this innovative – and necessary – coalition. Kentucky farmers were represented until mid-June by Allen Pace of Ballard County and Dan Pirtle of Graves County. These volunteer farmer-leaders were succeeded by Matt Moss of Fulton County and Mako Nesler of Graves County.



Soybean interns attend US Soybean Export Council Retreat

Kentucky Soybean Board summer interns Braeden Coomer (left) and Libby Alexander joined interns from several other Qualified State Soybean Boards for a program designed to introduce them to elements of the soybean business beyond their respective state lines.

The retreat was sponsored by the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) at its Chesterfield, Missouri headquarters, and included a trip to the nearby Bayer Innovation Experience, located inside the Bayer Crop Science Research Center. The interns were

fascinated by the numerous growth chambers inside the Bayer facility, each set to simulate climates in different parts of the world. Plants in various growth stages and with a wide variety of traits are grown in these specially designed chambers, all to see how they respond to different

environments and stressors. Other simulators have been designed to show side-by-side trials of plants purposely infested with diseases or pests, and it's easy for visitors to see what treatments or traits help the plant to resist damage and which ones are ineffective.

The group also toured an Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) riverport facility and were interested to see up close how barges lock through to head downriver to their destination – the Port of New Orleans. This facility accepts both whole beans and soybean meal and can receive cargo from

trucks and railcars. “They can load two barges at once, where most facilities can only do one at a time,” said intern Braeden Coomer. In addition to the tours, the interns enjoyed presentations from USSEC that show where the

see **RETREAT**,
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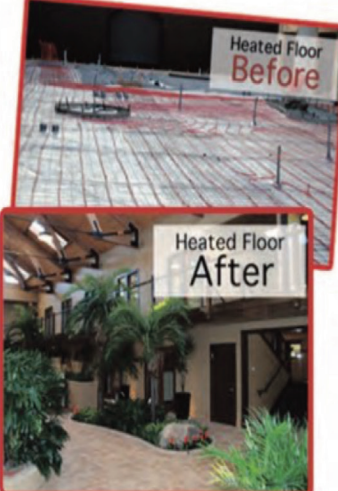


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RETREAT,
from page A17

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percent make their way downriver to be exported through the Gulf of Mexico.
Coomer attends Murray State University's Hutson School of Agriculture and is majoring in Ag Business, while Alexander is an Ag Communication major at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas.

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Johnstone to lead Coop. Extension's efforts in building health partnerships

By Christopher Carney

LEXINGTON, Ky.—The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service has hired Chlodys Johnstone as the new assistant dean for extension health partnerships at the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, effective July 1.

“Chlodys Johnstone brings a unique blend of clinical expertise, educational leadership and extensive experience serving Kentuckians to this new role,” said Laura Stephenson, vice president for land-grant engagement and Martin-Gatton CAFE dean. “Her experience building cross-sector partnerships and advancing community health will be instrumental as we strengthen Extension’s ability to serve Kentuckians through

innovative health initiatives.”

In this role, Johnstone will champion building and sustaining partnerships with on-campus departments and units, external institutions, government entities and private, public-sector organizations to engage Extension’s resources, optimizing health solutions for people, animals and ecosystems in Kentucky.

“As an educator and clinician dedicated to serving Kentuckians, I can imagine no better place to promote health and prevent disease than the Cooperative Extension Service at the University of Kentucky, which is deeply rooted in communities across our Commonwealth,” Johnstone said. “This role commitment aligns perfectly with the land-grant mission to

improve the lives of residents across Kentucky.”

Beginning in 2022, Johnstone served as the associate director of education and quality services at UK HealthCare Barnstable Brown Diabetes Center. She helped manage and promote nationally certified Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support Services and the Diabetes Prevention Program, maintained diabetes technology training contract services and expanded community outreach efforts. These efforts included innovative programming in collaboration with Extension, Martin-Gatton CAFE and the UK College of Education to enhance community outreach efforts and improve chronic disease management.

Previously, Johnstone provided direct patient care as a physician assistant and served as the adult endocrine advanced practice provider at UK HealthCare, leading teams and designing processes and procedures to improve patient outcomes.

Johnstone also has prior experience as a physician assistant at UK HealthCare Division of Hospital Medicine and East Side Family Medicine and as a middle school science teacher at Jefferson County Public Schools.

Johnstone has two degrees from the University of Kentucky: a master’s degree in physician assistant studies and a bachelor’s degree in plant and social science. She also has a Master of Arts in teaching from the University of Louisville.

To learn more about Extension at Martin-Gatton CAFE, visit <https://extension.ca.uky.edu>.

###

Writer: Christopher. Carney@uky.edu

University of Kentucky alum and former trustee Carol Martin “Bill” Gatton bestowed a transformational \$100 million gift to the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment through The Bill Gatton Foundation. It is the largest gift to the university in its history.

The Bill Gatton Foundation gift includes four pillars which are Scholarships and Other Initiatives for Student Success; Higgins-Neyland Companion Animal Program; 21st Century Capital Projects and New Initiatives Fund; and Faculty Research and

Innovation/Research Challenge Trust Fund Program.

The Faculty Research and Innovation/Research Challenge Trust Fund Program includes four grand challenges: Developing a Structural Framework and Action Plan for a Climate Resiliency Hub Serving Kentucky and Beyond; Growing Graduates from the Group Up; University of Kentucky One Health Complex; and Synergizing Extension Health Partnerships.



Chlodys Johnstone

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 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR RW Dr Xcab VIN: 3TYJDAHNBST031208 Stock #250549 \$33,984	 2025 Toyota Tacoma TRD OR 4WD VIN: 3TMLB5JN2SM148200 Stock #250528 \$46,763	 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR5 4WD DCab VIN: 3TMLB5JN2SM148360 Stock #250531 \$43,939	 2025 Toyota Tundra SR5 4WD Crew VIN: 3TMKB5FN0SM040484 Stock #250554 \$39,569	 2025 Toyota Tacoma TRD OR 4WD DCab VIN: 3TMLB5JN8SM154146 Stock #250567 \$45,179
 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR5 4WD DCab VIN: 3TYLB5JN8ST077203 Stock #250456 \$43,464	 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR5 4WD DCab VIN: 3TMLB5JN6SM154596 Stock #250577 \$42,854	 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR5 4WD DCab VIN: 3TMLB5JNXSM155041 Stock #250576 \$42,584	 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR5 4WD DCab VIN: 3TMLB5JN6SM137278 Stock #250457 \$44,553	 2025 Toyota Tundra Limited 4WD Crew VIN: 3TMLB5JNXSM127207 Stock #250460 \$46,744
 2025 Toyota Tacoma TRD OR 4WD VIN: 3TMLB5JN8SM158472 Stock #250623 \$45,179	 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR5 RWD DCab VIN: 5TFWA5DB4SX325521 Stock #250610 \$38,984	 2025 Toyota Tundra 1794 Ed. 4WD Crew VIN: 3TYJDAHNA4ST308359 \$33,924	 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR5 RWD DCab VIN: 3TMKB5FN9SM042878 Stock #250625 \$38,984	 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR5 RWD DCab VIN: 3TMKB5FN9SM043142 Stock #250537 \$39,084
 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR 4WD DCab VIN: 3TYLD5KNXST020543 Stock #250658 \$38,784	 2025 Toyota Tundra Plat. 4WD Crew VIN: 3TMLB5JN7SM160004 Stock #250619 \$42,769	 2025 Toyota Tacoma SR5 4WD DCab VIN: 3TMLB5JN3SM160646 Stock #250624 \$42,769	2025 Toyota Tundra Finance for 1.99% APR for 72 months Or \$3,000 Customer Cash See dealer for details and disclaimers.	

Join me at the Kentucky State Fair this year

By Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell

The 121st Kentucky State Fair is just a couple of weeks away! I want you to join me Aug. 14-24 and experience the sights, sounds, and smells that make the State Fair one of the best times of the year. It's the perfect showcase of Kentucky's agricultural spirit and everything Kentucky has to offer.

Farming is a way of life for many in Kentucky, but its impact is vital for every resident. It's why I'm dedicated to ensuring a bright future for Kentucky agriculture. That future is showcased during the

fair as hundreds of thousands of people make their way out each year.

As a member of the State Fair Board, I can assure you lots of behind-the-scenes actions take place to make the fair a showcase for our state. Planned renovations, being furnished by a \$200 million appropriation for the State Fair by our General Assembly, will create an even better experience for fairgoers in the coming years.

Changes on a smaller scale were also a part of last year's AgLand, which brings together more than an acre of agriculture exhibits in the South Wing highlighting Kentucky's farm and

field heritage, including the future of farming and agribusiness. Those changes, which included more interactive and immersive exhibits, will return this year after earning a first-place award from the International Association of Fairs and Exposition.

AgLand is also where you'll find Kentucky 4-H, Kentucky FFA, and other ag exhibits reaching a broad and diverse audience.

At the State Fair, you will see why we're Kentucky Proud of our agriculture industry. Kentucky's leading youth livestock exhibitors compete for the highest honors of the show season. Kentucky's commodity

groups serve delicious meals at the Great Kentucky Cookout Tent. The agricultural displays highlight the best our Kentucky farmers have to offer.

Creating an inclusive experience for all our residents will, once again, be highlighted this year as we offer the Sunshine Class on Aug. 20. Now in its fourth year, the event creates an opportunity for people with special needs to get hands-on experience with the agriculture industry by showing livestock in a show ring. We are hoping for an even larger



class of participants this year as we pair the Sunshine Class experience with Sensory Awareness Day at the State Fair. The day offers minimal music and lights for fairgoers with sensory process needs.

As always, your Kentucky Department of Agriculture will be on the job at the fair. Our employees meet the public and talk about the ways agriculture affects everyday lives. We help manage the livestock shows and agricultural exhibits. We also help livestock producers and exhibitors protect their investments in their animals.

We want you to leave the fair with fond memories that

will last a lifetime. We encourage everyone to come out and experience the Kentucky State Fair! It's a celebration of our agriculture, heritage, and community. There's something for everyone to enjoy. Don't miss this annual tradition!

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- Agri NewsInside!

Summer Clearance Sale

\$36,895 2025 Chevrolet Colorado WT/LT VIN: 1GCPTBEK0S1226046 Stock #T25206	\$51,280 2025 Chevrolet Colorado Z71 VIN: 1GCPTDEK0S1205256 Stock #T25198	\$56,487 2025 Chevrolet Colorado ZR2 VIN: 1GCPTFEK1S1248130 Stock #T25222	\$59,295 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT VIN: 1GCUKDE89S2337069 Stock #T25215	\$50,184 2025 GMC Canyon Elevation VIN: 1GTP2BEKXS1214831 Stock #G25131
See Dealer 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 VIN: 3GCUKCE81SG360405 Stock #T25221	\$54,000 2025 Chevrolet Colorado 1500 LT VIN: 3GCUKDED8SG223237 Stock #T25122	\$50,250 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT VIN: 3GCUKDED8SG223738 Stock #T25123	\$54,000 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT VIN: 3GCUKEED9SG223740 Stock #T25124	See Dealer 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT VIN: 3GCUKFE88SG392138 Stock #T25226
\$60,000 2025 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LTZ VIN: 3GCUKGEL2SG237854 Stock #T25147	\$59,000 2025 Chevrolet Colorado 1500 LTZ VIN: 3GCUKGEL4SG237600 Stock #T25148	\$48,000 2025 GMC Sierra SLE VIN: 1GTPUBKXS2220810 Stock #G2595	\$93,495 2024 GMC Sierra EV Denali Edition 1 VIN: 1GT401EL3RU402224 Stock #G24132	\$48,169 2025 GMC Canyon AT4 VIN: 1GTP2DEK1S1230668 Stock #G25136
\$49,000 2025 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE VIN: 3GTPUCEK1SG257861 Stock #G25102	\$52,824 2025 GMC Canyon AT4 VIN: 1GTP2DEK7S1242307 Stock #G25139	\$48,500 2025 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE VIN: 1GTPUBKXS2218129 Stock #G2592	\$58,984 2025 GMC Canyon Denali VIN: 1GTP2FEK7S1224658 Stock #G25132	\$61,250 2025 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT VIN: 3GTUUDL9SG226312 Stock #G2573
See Dealer 2025 GMC Sierra 1500 Denali VIN: 1GTUUGEL8SZ305567 Stock #G25141	\$75,250 2025 GMC Sierra 1500 AT4X VIN: 3GTUUFEL1SG229247 Stock #G2578	\$89,055 2025 GMC Sierra 2500 HD AT4 VIN: 1GT4UPEY1SF345826 Stock #G25142	\$87,000 2025 GMC Sierra EV ER Denali VIN: 1GT10MED5SU405290 Stock #G2545	\$99,440 2025 GMC Hummer EV Pickup 3X VIN: 1GT10DB87SU108652 Stock #G2527

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Flesh-Eating maggots threaten livestock in Kentucky

A Growing Concern for Farmers

By Wilbur Jackson
KPI Writer

In recent months, livestock farmers across Kentucky have been battling a troubling outbreak of flesh-eating maggots, a condition medically known as myiasis. This parasitic infestation, caused by fly larvae, is affecting cattle, sheep, goats, and other farm animals, raising alarm among agricultural communities and veterinarians alike. The situation is particularly dire during the warm and humid summer months, which provide ideal breeding conditions for the flies responsible for the maggots.

Myiasis occurs when certain species of flies—most notably screwworms and blowflies—lay their eggs in open wounds or moist areas on an animal’s body. Once the eggs hatch, the larvae burrow into the flesh, feeding on living tissue and causing severe pain, infection, and in some cases, death. Although Kentucky has not historically been a hotspot for these aggressive parasitic flies, recent changes in weather patterns and increased livestock movement may be contributing to the spread.

Local veterinarians are reporting a sharp increase in



cases this summer, with some counties seeing double the normal rate of infections. Dr. Karen Mills, a veterinarian in central Kentucky, explained, “We’re seeing animals come in with rapidly progressing infestations. If not treated quickly, these maggots can do extensive damage in a matter of hours.”

The presence of flesh-eating maggots poses not only an animal welfare issue but also an economic threat to Kentucky’s agriculture sector. Livestock producers may face

costly treatments, reduced meat and dairy output, and even the loss of animals. A single infected cow can cost a farmer hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars in veterinary bills, labor, and decreased productivity.

Prevention is currently the best defense. Farmers are being urged to inspect their animals daily, especially for open wounds or signs of distress such as excessive licking, agitation, or a foul odor. Prompt cleaning and treatment of any cuts or

abrasions can help prevent fly attraction. Additionally, fly control measures—such as insecticidal sprays, fly traps, and proper sanitation of barns and pastures—can reduce the fly population and limit the risk of infestation.

State agricultural officials have also stepped in, offering workshops and guidance on myiasis prevention and treatment. There is growing concern that if the infestation continues to spread unchecked, it could jeopardize livestock health across the region. Some experts are calling for increased surveillance and even potential quarantine measures in the most affected counties.

“This is a wake-up call,” said Dr. Mills. “Farmers must stay vigilant. These maggots don’t wait—they spread fast and silently.”

As Kentucky navigates this livestock health crisis, coordination between farmers, veterinarians, and state officials will be crucial. While flesh-eating maggots may seem like something out of a horror story, they are a very real threat—and without prompt and proactive measures, the damage could become widespread and long-lasting.

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Farming in Western Kentucky: *Strength, Tradition, and Innovation*

By Wilbur Jackson
KPI Writer

Western Kentucky has long been a cornerstone of the state’s agricultural economy, known for its fertile soil, diverse crop production, and strong farming heritage. From the gently rolling fields of corn and soybeans to the expansive pastures dotted with cattle, the region blends tradition with modern practices to sustain one of the most productive agricultural zones in the southeastern United States. Row crop farming dominates much

of the region, with corn, soybeans, and wheat being the primary commodities. Western Kentucky’s rich loam soil and favorable rainfall make it ideal for high-yield crop production. Many family farms have been passed down through generations, with younger farmers incorporating GPS-guided machinery, drone surveillance, and conservation tillage to increase efficiency and sustainability. Livestock farming, particularly beef cattle and poultry, also plays a key role. Cattle graze across large pastures in counties like Graves, Christian,

and Calloway, while large poultry operations contribute significantly to the state’s overall meat and egg production. The region is also home to a growing number of niche and specialty farms producing hemp, sweet potatoes, and artisanal goods like honey, cheese, and organic produce. These smaller operations are helping diversify the economy and meet the rising demand for locally grown products. Despite its strengths, farmers in western Kentucky face challenges,

including fluctuating market prices, unpredictable weather, and more recently, pest threats such as flesh-eating maggots. However, with strong community support, university-led agricultural research, and increasing access to technology, the region is well-positioned to adapt and thrive. Farming in western Kentucky is more than an occupation—it’s a way of life built on hard work, family values, and a deep connection to the land. As the industry evolves, western Kentucky farmers continue to lead with resilience and innovation.

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Government deploys billions of sterile flies in Kentucky to combat maggot issue

By Wilbur Jackson
KPI Writer

In an unprecedented move to combat the rising threat of flesh-eating maggots ravaging Kentucky livestock, federal and state agricultural agencies have launched a large-scale aerial release of sterile flies across the most heavily affected regions. The bold strategy, backed by emergency funding and scientific research, aims to break the reproductive cycle of screwworms and blowflies—parasitic flies responsible for myiasis, the flesh-eating condition plaguing farm animals.

The program, overseen by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in partnership with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, involves the weekly release of billions of sterile male flies over rural areas using specially outfitted aircraft. The sterile flies

are bred in government labs, irradiated to prevent reproduction, and then released to mate with wild female flies. Since no viable offspring result from these pairings, the overall fly population is expected to decline rapidly.

“This technique has worked before in places like the southern United States and Central America,” said Dr. Linda Cartwright, an entomologist with the USDA. “We’re applying decades of research in insect population control to this urgent outbreak in Kentucky.”

The operation began last month after an alarming surge in livestock myiasis cases in at least 32 counties. Farmers reported severe infestations in cattle, sheep, and goats, with some animals dying from infections caused by maggot-infested wounds. The infestation prompted emergency meetings and

intense lobbying from agricultural groups, urging swift and decisive government action.

By introducing sterile males into the environment in massive numbers, the government hopes to outcompete fertile males, thereby collapsing the population from within. The effort has been dubbed “Operation Flyshield” and is being hailed as one of the most ambitious sterile insect technique (SIT) deployments ever undertaken in the continental U.S.

Still, the plan is not without controversy. Some farmers and residents have expressed concern about the idea of releasing billions of insects into the environment, even if they are sterile.

Experts insist the method is both safe and environmentally friendly. Unlike chemical insecticides, which can harm beneficial insects

and contaminate water supplies, SIT is species-specific and poses no risk to humans, wildlife, or crops.

The cost of the operation is estimated at over \$45 million, a price tag that federal officials argue is small compared to the potential economic fallout of an uncontrolled maggot outbreak. Livestock losses from myiasis in Kentucky have already reached an estimated \$120 million this year alone.

Dr. Cartwright remains optimistic. “We’ve already seen early signs of success in pilot areas. Fly populations are dropping. If we stay the course, we can beat this.”

As Operation Flyshield continues over the coming weeks, Kentucky farmers—and the nation’s agricultural community—will be watching closely to see whether this swarm of sterile flies can stop a microscopic enemy with devastating consequences.

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• BALLARD •

Robert Scott Sr., age 87, passed away at his residence on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, in O’Fallon, Missouri. He was born in Ballard County. Graveside services were held on Saturday, July 12, 2025, at Pleasant Hill Cemetery beginning with Brother Glen Dunn officiating.

Gladys Lopez Fraser, age 88, of Wickliffe, KY, walked into her heavenly home and in the presence of her Lord and Savior became healthy again, on July 14, 2025. A funeral mass was held Thursday, July 17, 2025 at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in LaCenter with Fr. Jude Okeoma officiating. Burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

• CALLOWAY •

Steven Alan Reinke, 69, of Murray, Kentucky, formerly of Detroit, Michigan, passed away on Thursday, July 10, 2025 at Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Care Center in Paducah, Kentucky. No services are planned at this time.

William Bryant Hornbuckle, 74, of Murray, passed away peacefully at his home on Sunday, July 6, 2025. A private family graveside service with military honors will be held at Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West in Hopkinsville.

Willard Glenn Brake Sr., age 95, of Murray, Kentucky, passed away on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at his home. A funeral service was held Monday, July 14, 2025, at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Pastor Robert Mann officiating, and burial in the Murray City Cemetery.

Taylor Brianne Brooks, a beloved mother, wife, daughter, sister, and friend, passed away on Monday, July 7, 2025, at the age of 31. A funeral service was held Monday, July 14, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at Gum Springs Baptist Church in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. Bro. Chad Clanton officiating, and burial in the Gum Springs Baptist Church Cemetery.

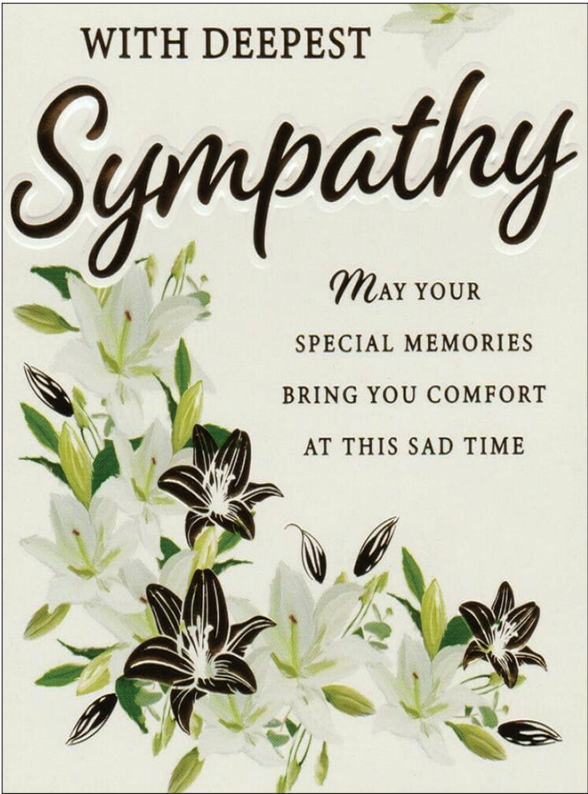
Ted Franklin Billington of Lexington, Kentucky, formerly of Murray, Kentucky, passed away peacefully on July 10, 2025, at the age of 86. Visitation will be held on Friday, July 18, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the J.H. Churchill Funeral Home and Cremation Services followed by a graveside service at 12:30 p.m. at the Murray City Cemetery.

Thomas W. Allen, 67 of Murray, KY passed away Monday, July 14, 2025 at his home. Arrangements are incomplete at this time at the Blalock-Coleman Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Murray, KY.

• CARDWELL •

Lester Theodore Thomas, Sr., 89, of Princeton, KY, passed away Sunday, July 6, 2025, at Princeton Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Graveside funeral services will be Saturday, July 19, 11 AM, at Cedar Grove Cemetery, with burial to follow. Friends may visit with the family on Saturday, July 19th, from 9:00 until 10:30 AM in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors and Cremation Services.

Joan Adelle Moore, of Fredonia passed away at Rivercrest Place in Paducah, Kentucky, on July 10, 2025, just a day after she celebrated her 88th birthday. Friends and family are invited to gather in remembrance of Joan at Fredonia



Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 303 Cassidy Ave., Fredonia, KY 42411. A Celebration of Life will be held on July 19, 2025, at 2:00 PM, followed by a reception in the activities building for family and friends to share life memories.

Jeannie Kay Varble, passed away in Princeton, KY. Born in Evansville, IN. A memorial visitation will be held from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm Saturday, July 19, 2025 at River of Life Church in Henderson, KY. A memorial service will be held at 12:00 pm Saturday, July 19, 2025 at River of Life Church, 725 Washington Street, Henderson, KY 42420.

Wanda Ruth Rowland Cooke, 79, of the Flat Rock community near Fredonia, Kentucky, passed away peacefully on July 9, 2025 in Murray, Kentucky. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 11:00 AM at Morgan’s Funeral Home with Bro. Jeff Boone officiating. Burial in Asher Cemetery.

Jacqueline “Jacqui” Prowell Morris, age 64, of Hopkinsville and formerly of Marion, KY, passed away at Tri Star Skyline Hospital in Nashville, TN, at 4:00 pm Tuesday July 8, 2025. Funeral services were Sunday, July 13, 2025, at 2:00 PM at Morgan’s Funeral Home with Bro. Dean Ray and Bro. Mark Faughn officiating. Burial in Rowland Cemetery in Caldwell County.

• CARLISLE •

David “Rocky” Duane Dubrock, age 91, of Arlington, Kentucky, went home to his savior on Monday, July 7, 2025. Funeral services will be held at 1:00 pm on Friday, July 11, 2025 at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Arlington. Burial will follow at Arlington Cemetery.

• CHRISTIAN •

David Bryan Moss, age 70, of Pembroke, passed away on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at Centennial Medical Center in Nashville. Funeral Services were Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at Maddux Fuqua Hinton Funeral Home with Bro. Robert Webb officiating and burial in Rosedale Cemetery.

Troy Hayden Guier, age 90, of Hopkinsville, passed away Monday, July 7, 2025, at Jennie Stuart Medical Center. Funeral Services were Monday, July 14, 2025, at Maddux-Fuqua-Hinton Funeral Home and burial in Green Hill Memorial Gardens.

Lawrence Browder Frederick, age 97, of Trenton, Ky. died at Spring Meadows Health and Rehabilitation on Sunday, July 6, 2025. A celebration of life service will be held on Friday, July 18, at 1 p.m. at Trenton Presbyterian Church. He will be laid to rest in Edgewood Cemetery in Trenton. Maddux-Fuqua-Hinton Funeral Home of Hopkinsville has been entrusted the cremation and burial.

Jeannine B. “Nanny” Allen, 87, of Hopkinsville, Kentucky died at 11:15 a.m., Friday, July 11, 2025 at her residence in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Funeral services were Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at Hughart, Beard & Giles Funeral Home with Chaplain Reed Shepherd officiating. Burial will follow in Pennington Cemetery.

Bentley Ray Cornelius, 62, of Hopkinsville, KY died at 7:45 a.m. Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at his residence. Memorial services will be 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 21, 2025 at Hughart, Beard & Giles Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Riverside Cemetery. Visitation will be Monday from 4:00 p.m. until the funeral hour. Hughart, Beard & Giles Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Rev. David Wayne Parks, 84, Kenwood Drive, Hopkinsville, KY, passed away on Saturday, July 12, 2025, at Bradford Heights Nursing and Rehabilitation. Funeral services were held Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at Lamb Funeral Home with Rev. Leon Parker officiating. Burial in McKnight Cemetery.

Robert Denvil Eli, 84, of Henderson, KY died at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 8, 2025 in Henderson, KY. Funeral Services were Friday, July 11, 2025 at Dogwood Funerals & Cremations of Crofton with Bro. Butch McKnight officiating. Burial in Macedonia Cemetery.

Bessie Mae Radford Ladd, 86, Hopkinsville, passed away on Friday, July 11, 2025, in Hopkinsville, KY. Funeral Service will be Friday, July 18, 2025 Gamble Funeral Home Hopkinsville, KY 42240.

Martha Louis Brewer passed away June 8, 2025. She was 72 years and 10 days old at the time of her passing. Funeral Service at Durrett Avenue Baptist Church will be Saturday, June 14, 2025 at 12:00 PM at 1918 Church Street Hopkinsville, KY 42240. Visitation at 11 am. Burial at Cave Springs Cemetery.

• CRITTENDEN •

Brad Lee Jones, 59, of Marion, KY passed away July 8, 2025 at Baptist Health Madisonville. Services were Sunday July 13, 2025 at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion, KY.

• GRAVES •

David Schreiner, 70, of Mayfield, Kentucky, passed away peacefully on July 12, 2025, surrounded by the love of his family. No Services will be held but his memory is always with us.

Vivian Fisher, age 95 and a resident of Mayfield, passed away at 9:40 A.M. Monday, July 14, 2025 at the Green Acres Healthcare Facility in Mayfield. A private graveside service will be held at the Highland Park Cemetery at a later date. The Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield is in charge of arrangements.

FUNERAL NOTICES continued

Coreta Joyce Reed, age 88 of Mayfield, KY passed away on Sunday, July 13, 2025 at 5:21 PM at her residence. Graveside Services will be held on Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 2:00 PM at the Highland Park Cemetery with Rev. David Lee officiating.

Anne LaDean (Bell) Bruce, age 86, of Mayfield, KY passed away at 7:57 AM Sunday, July 13, 2025 at Mercy Health - Lourdes in Paducah. Graveside services were Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at the Highland Park Cemetery in Mayfield.

Dianna L. Crittendon, age 72, a resident of Wingo, passed away at 9:50 P.M. Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at the Lourdes Hospital in Paducah. Memorial services will be held at 11:00 A.M. Saturday, July 12, 2025 at the Brown Funeral Home in Mayfield with Rev. David Doran officiating.

James E. Byrd, age 73, of Mayfield passed away on Sunday, July 13, 2025 at Baptist Health in Paducah, KY. Funeral services were Thursday, July 17, 2025 at Byrn Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY. Rev. Ronnie Stinson, Jr. officiating. Interment at Trinity Cemetery.

Don “Doodle” Hendley, age 85, of Mayfield passed away on Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at Murray-Calloway County Hospital in Murray, KY. Funeral serviceswere Saturday, July 12, 2025 at Byrn Funeral Home in Mayfield, KY. Rev. Brad Morris officiating. Interment at Highland Park Cemetery.

D.J. Paul, age 55, of Mayfield passed away on Monday, July 7, 2025 at his residence. Graveside services were Thursday, July 10, 2025 at Highland Park Cemetery. Al Chandler officiating.

• HENDERSON •

Dorothy Irene Murch, 89, of Henderson, passed away Sunday, July 13, 2025 at Redbanks Nursing Home. Funeral services were Thursday, July 17 at Tomblinson Funeral Home in Henderson with Pastor David Petrie officiating. Burial at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Tilden.

Susan Annette (Ligon) Spainhoward, 70, left this world on July 11, 2025, at 1:17 a.m., at St. Anthony’s Hospice in Henderson, Ky. Services were Tuesday, July 15, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Tomblinson Funeral Home in Hendersone officiated by Brothers Paul Davis and Hal Branson. Burial will follow at Roselawn Memorial Gardens.

Larry Donn (LD) Frasier, 68 of Eddyville, KY and formerly of Sebree passed away Friday July 11, 2025 at his home under the care of Pennyroyal Hospice. Services were Thursday July 17, 2025 at Tomblinson Funeral Home Sebree Chapel. Brother Johnny McCurry officiating

Delora Martine (Sweeney) Gates, 89 of Hanson, KY passed away Thursday July 10, 2025 at Baptist Health Deaconess Madisonville. Services will be Private. Burial will be in Hanson Cemetery.

Givens Bradford Dixon was taken by his Lord and Savior to his father’s house on July 9, 2025. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, July 19, 2025, at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church at 2:00 PM.

• HICKMAN •

Annie Helen Morris Turner, age 98 of Clinton passed away 2:27am Monday, July 14, 2025 at her residence. Funeral Services was held Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at Brown Funeral Home in Clinton with Rev. Bob Risner officiating. Burial in the Clinton Cemetery.

Angela Denise Brown Steichen, affectionately known as “Uma” by her grandchildren, age 67 of the Fulgham community, passed away Friday, July 11, 2025 at her residence. A memorial service will be held at a later date at the Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church and will be announced from the Brown Funeral Home in Clinton.

• HOPKINS •

Thula Mae Brooks, 97, of Madisonville, KY passed away on July 10, 2025 at Ridgewood Terrace Nursing Home. Graveside services were held on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 12:00PM at Oakwood Cemetery in Earlington, KY with Kenneth Blevins officiating.

Sandra Lou Gipson, 60 of Madisonville passed away Sunday July 13, 2025 at home surrounded by her family. Services will be held Friday July 18 at 1pm at Bandy Funeral Home in Nortonville with Bro. Wally Cobb officiating. Visitation will be held from 11-1 pm. Burial will be in New Salem Cemetery, Nortonville.

Patricia Sue Duncan Blake, 81, of Graham, KY, passed away on Friday, July 11, 2025, at Madisonville Health and Rehab in Madisonville, KY. A graveside service was held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at Odd Fellows Cemetery with Bro. Danny Lutz officiating. Harris Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Jackie J. Murphy, 56, of Dawson Springs, KY, passed away on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at her home. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Harris Funeral Home was entrusted with care..

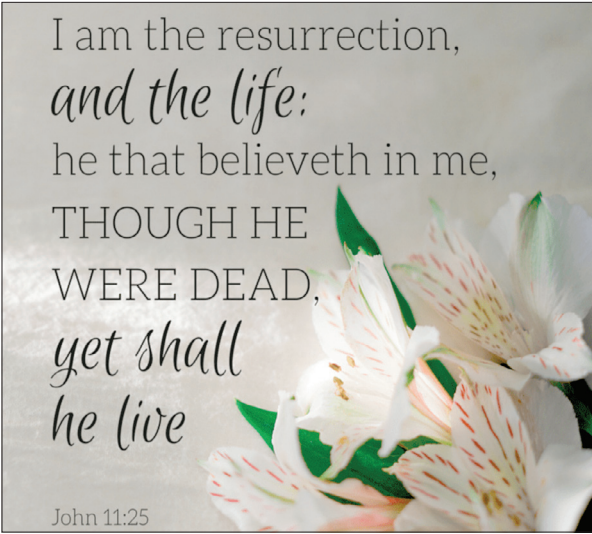
Michael “Mike” Lee Morgan, 67, of Nebo, KY, passed away on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at his home from complications with his multiple sclerosis. A memorial service was held at 6 p.m. on Monday, July 14, 2025, in the chapel of Harris Funeral Home with Bro. Billy Parrish officiating. Burial will be held at a later date in Union Cemetery in Nebo.

James Thomas “Tommy” Oldham, 76, of Madisonville, KY, passed away on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at Ridgewood Terrace Health and Rehab in Madisonville, KY. A funeral service was held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 12, 2025, in the chapel of Harris Funeral Home in Madisonville with Pastor Gene Rickard officiating. Burial at Slaughters Cemetery in Slaughters, KY.

• LIVINGSTON •

William Gerald Butler of Salem, Kentucky, passed away peacefully at the age of 84, surrounded by his loving family. Funeral services was held at Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem, KY. Monday, July 14, 2025.

Lester Theodore Thomas, Sr., 89, of Princeton, KY, passed away Sunday, July 6, 2025, at Princeton Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Graveside funeral services will be Saturday, July 19, 11 AM, at Cedar Grove Cemetery, with burial to follow.



Barbara Fay Connor, age 90 of Grand Rivers Ky, passed away on Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at Baptist Health in Paducah. Funeral service was held Friday July 11, 2025 with Rev. Mike Wimberley officiating and Rev. Richard Martin assisting and the burial in Dycusburg Cemetery.

• LYON •

Thomas William Joyce Sr., age 75 of Eddyville Ky, passed away on Thursday, July 10, 2025 at his home in Eddyville. The family has chosen to have a memorial service at a later time.

• MCCRACKEN •

Debra “Debbie” Pryor, age 72, passed away peacefully into her Saviors loving arms on Saturday, July 12, 2025. surrounded by her family. Funeral Service was held Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at Spring Bayou Baptist Church with Rev. Ryan Baker and Rev. Elic Whited officiating. Interment will follow at Spring Bayou Baptist Church Cemetery.

Nancy Jo Wetherington Shetler met face to face with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, at 4:50 pm on Saturday, July 12, 2025 with her loving family surrounding her. A private family celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Terry Hill, 76, of Paducah, Kentucky passed away at 5:50 p.m. Thursday, July 10, 2025 at Providence Pointe of Paducah. Memorial visitation was held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Paducah.

Aubrey Wayne Richards passed away peacefully at his residence on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at the age of 78 in Paducah, Kentucky. A Memorial Mass was held Monday, July 14, 2025, at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church with Rev. Gary Clark officiating. Burial at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

David Randall Hall, 58, of Paducah, passed away on July 8, 2025, at Baptist Health Hospital in Paducah. There will be no services. Milner & Orr Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Paducah is in charge of all arrangements.

Anna Katherine “Kathy” Kaufman, a resident of Paducah, Kentucky, and a cherished member of the community, passed away peacefully on July 8, 2025, at the age of 60. Memorial services were Saturday, July 12, 2025 at Milner & Orr Funeral Home of Paducah with Rev. Rob Ison officiating.

FUNERAL NOTICES continued

Kimberly Ann Cole, 61, passed away on Monday, July 7, 2025, at Norton’s Womens and Children Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. Final resting place Brook Hill Paducah LLC Paducah, KY 42001.

Martha Louise Speed Shelton passed away on July 7, 2025 at her home in Lone Oak, Kentucky. She was 93 years old. A memorial service was held Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at the Lone Oak Chapel of Milner & Orr Funeral Home, with Rev. Mike Rothwell officiating. A private graveside service will be held at a later date.

Bettye Tichenor Swoope, 82, of Paducah, Kentucky, passed away on Sunday, July 6, 2025, at Baptist Health Hospital, Paducah. Graveside Services were held Saturday, July 12, 2025 at Maplelawn Park Cemetery.

Marjorie E. (Wesner) Cox, 97, died peacefully on Friday, July 12, 2025 at Western Baptist Hospital in Paducah, Kentucky. There will be no funeral as the family prefers to remember their loved ones alive.

Mary R. Nichols, age 67, of Paducah, Kentucky, passed away at 9:03 p.m. on Friday, July 11, 2025, at the Ray & Kay Eckstein Hospice Care Center in Paducah. In accordance with Mary’s wishes, cremation will take place, and no services are scheduled at this time.

Dorothy J. Reeves, 95, of Paducah went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at her residence. Graveside services will be at 11:30am on Saturday, July 26, 2025, at Woodlawn Memorial Gardens with the Rev. Dennis Lawrence officiating.

Marilyn Marie Helton, 70, of Paducah, KY passed away Sunday, July 06, 2025, at her home. Marilyn Marie Helton wishes were to be cremated with services at a later date.

Keith Anthony Ramos, 71, of Reidland, passed away at 7:50 PM on Sunday, July 6, 2025 at his residence. Memorial services were Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at Oaklawn Baptist Church in Paducah.

Jaylon Ryan Brewer of Paducah, passed away on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at Norton Children’s Hospital in Louisville, KY. Jaylon was born on May 14, 2025, the son of Braydon and Megan Brewer. A funeral

service was held Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 12:00 PM at Keeling & Goodman Funeral Home.

Juanita G. Richardson, 100 years, of Greenville, Kentucky, was called home to meet her Savior on Friday, July 11, 2025, at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital in Owensboro, Kentucky. Born in Paducah, Kentucky, Funeral services were Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at the Life Celebration Center of Filbeck-Cann, Benton, Kentucky 42025 with Bro. Ray Gilliland officiating. Burial in Bethel Church Cemetery.

• MARSHALL •

Mildred “Millie” Hendrickson, 84, of Benton, Kentucky, passed away on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at the Ray and Kay Eckstein Hospice Care Center in Paducah. A memorial service was held Saturday, July 12, 2025, at the Life Celebration Center of Filbeck Cann with Rev. Samantha Hall officiating.

Jody Kleet Lee, 72, of Benton, Kentucky, passed away on Sunday, July 6, 2025, at Baptist Health of Paducah. Milner & Orr Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Paducah is in charge of arrangements.

• TRIGG •

Charles “Charlie” Hooks, age 75, of Cadiz, Kentucky, a Between the Rivers native, passed away on Friday, July 11, 2025, at Jennie Stuart Medical Center in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. A graveside memorial service will be held at a later date at Cumberland Cemetery in Land Between the Lakes.

• UNION •

Roger Dale Coffman, 69, of Morganfield, Ky., died in his sleep Thursday, July 10, at the home he shared with his dear friend Teresa Jenkins (TJ) in Dixon, Ky. A graveside service will precede burial in Mt. Washington Cemetery in Mt. Washington, Ky., at 2 p.m. Thursday. Whitsell Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Brenda Stone Albizzati passed away at her home on July 13, 2025 from complications from a long battle with Parkinson’s disease. Funeral service were Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at Northside Baptist Church in Morganfield, KY. Rev. Scott Wright officiating.

Cora Lee Howard age 96 of Morganfield, KY passed away on Saturday July 12, 2025 at the Morganfield Nursing & Rehab Center. Funeral will be Friday July 18, 2025

at Whitsell Funeral Home in Morganfield, KY. Rev. Jerry Chesser will officiate. Visitation will be 10AM- 1PM on Friday at the funeral home. Burial will be in Boxville Cemetery in Boxville, KY.

William “Bill” Stone, 81 of Sturgis passed away Sunday, July 13, 2025 at Deaconess Henderson Hospital in Henderson. Cremation was chosen and there will be no services at this time.

• WEBSTER •

Mary Lou Forbes, 87 of Slaughters passed away on Friday, July 11, 2025 at Shemwells Nursing Home in Providence. Funeral services were Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 1:00 PM at Vanover Funeral Home in Clay with Brother Len Young officiating. Burial in Bethlehem Cemetery in Madisonville.

Thomas A. Chandler, 78 of Dixon passed away Wednesday, July 9, 2025 at Cypress Grove in Newburgh, IN under the care of Heart to Heart Hospice with his devoted son Tim at his side. Funeral services were Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 1:00 PM at Vanover Funeral Home in Clay with Blake Beaver officiating. Burial in Chandler Cemetery outside of Dixon. Military Rites at the the gravesite.

Reverend David Ray Townsend, 84, went to be with our Lord on July 12, 2025. He was born on July 1, 1941 to the late Buford Ray Townsend and Ruby Edith Townsend. Funeral services were Thursday July 17th, 2025 at 11am at Townsend Funeral Home in Dixon, KY. Rev. Nick Duvall officiating. Burial in Slaughters Cemetery in Slaughters, KY.

Pansy Sue Mitchell Hoover Evans, 86, of Poole, KY went home to be with the Lord on Thursday July 10th, 2025 in her home surrounded by her family. Funeral services were Wednesday at 11am at Townsend Funeral Home in Dixon, KY. Rev. J.W. Haire officiating. Burial in Townsend Cemetery in Dixon, KY.

Evadene Hibbs,94, of Providence, KY passed away on Thursday July 10, 2025, at Shemwell’s Healthcare in Providence. Funeral services were held on Monday July 14, 2025, at 2:00PM in the Lucille Melton Memorial Chapel at Lewis Funeral Home LLC with Pastor Tim Rigdon and Pastor Terry Rigsby officiating with burial in the White Oak Cemetery near Clay.

We are sorry for your loss

Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.



To place a full obituary, including a photo, call 270-442-7389 for details and pricing. Obituaries and funeral notices should be received by 9 a.m. Wednesday for inclusion in that week’s paper.

VICTORIOUS *Living* ...in a troubled world

This one thing serves you will throughout life

By Teresa LeNeave
Leneave2@comcast.net

Television (even cartoons) teach kids that it's funny to have an attitude. Movies teach kids it's okay to have an attitude. And, parents teach them it's okay to be disrespectful when a bad attitude is ignored. Then, we pretend we don't know why kids struggle with good attitudes.

When kids are toddlers, everything is cute. I know. I think everything my grandchildren do is cute. When they pout, I even think that is cute. I guess, kids have been pretty much the same since the beginning of time because the Bible has so much to say about honoring your mother, your father, and your elders. The Bible is very explicit, and to the point, when

talking about honor. I don't think anyone could read what the Bible says about honoring parents and not understand it.

What does it mean to honor your father and mother ... to have a good attitude?

To honor your father and mother means to revere (respect), prize and value. Do we as adult revere, prize, and value our parents? Or, do we think they are adults and we have our own lives to live? ... Never forget your children watch what you do and will probably treat you just like you treat your parents.

Honor, to me, is something that stems from an inward attitude and it always values the position of the other.

Those who honor their parents are blessed according to Jeremiah 35:18-



19. In Jeremiah, the blessing extended from generation to generation. I believe it still does today.

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise, so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth"

(Ephesians 6:1-3).

In my opinion, we have to teach our children / grandchildren well, because this world is trying very hard to teach them wrong. When it really comes down to learning, kids learn from watching. What do they see in us? Do they hear me talk respectful? Do they see me be kind or hateful? What they

see, they learn.

Why is it important to teach honor to children? One simple statement answers that question: Because it serves them well throughout life. After a child is mature and on their own, the ability to show honor and respect will serve them well in honoring authorities who are above them such as

employer, teachers, pastors, even the President. Ask any school teacher how important honor and respect is. Ask any employer who their most valuable employees are. Honor trickles into every vein of your life and it leaks into the life of following generations.



By Gary Miller
Outdoortruths.org

Even though it's only July, the deer hunters are getting prepared for another season. While it may be several weeks until the season opens, there is much to do to be ready for opening day – especially if you hunt with bow and arrow. Right now, I'm checking trail cameras, hanging tree stands and trying to figure out where the deer are likely to be early in the season. And it is not always where one might think.

I am reminded of an Alabama hunt several years ago. I was with a friend on a piece of property that was owned by a rancher who not only raised cattle but managed for quality deer. It really was a beautiful place and just riding around caused me to get extremely excited about the possibilities. That afternoon would be our first hunt, so the rancher "carried us" (that's Alabama vernacular for drove us) to the stands we

would hunt. As we passed through the pasture he pointed to one lone cedar tree about 200 yards from a wood line and said, "Somebody needs to sit right there." My partner and I silently wondered where exactly he was talking about. And then he said, "See that blue milk crate? Sit on it and lean up against that cedar tree." Now this was not exactly the place where either of us imagined we would spend our time hunting. After

all, it didn't look like or feel like it had any possibility whatsoever of producing anything but shade for an afternoon nap. I was expecting my tree stand to be labeled Lone Wolf or something, but this one said Mayfield Dairy. After debating on which one of us would have this honor, my friend drew the short straw and jumped out of the truck (boy was I relieved!). That evening he killed a giant 11 pointer and another buck with an even wider rack that next morning. Who would've ever "thunk" it? The moral of the story: It is better to take the word of the rancher than go to with what feels good or looks good. Period! I wished we would focus more on that same truth in our

experience with God. Let me ask you something. Do you have to feel the presence of God to know He is there? Or are you satisfied with His simple word that says, "I will never leave you or forsake you?" Do you need to see some manifestation of His workings to believe He is at work? Or can you simply believe His word when He says, "I am working all things for your good?" On Sunday morning as you sit in church, do you base the quality of your experience on what you may have felt or seen? Or do you understand that true faith simply believes His word, sometimes without any emotions whatsoever? Your answers to these questions will expose the depth of your faith. Is

God's word good enough? Or does it need to be scotched up with something that appeals to the senses. I hope you are someone who will simply take God at His word and get out of the truck even when it seems He is placing you on a milk crate.

Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 21 years. He has also written five books which include compilations of his articles and a father/son devotional. He also speaks at wild-game dinners and men's events for churches and associations. Stay updated on Outdoor Truths each week by subscribing at Outdoortruths.org

Heroes without capes or superpowers

By William F Holland Jr.
billyhollandministries.com

We hear a lot about heroes these days. Accomplished athletes are admired as idols for throwing around a ball, while actors in blockbuster movies portray individuals who can fly and use their incredible powers to save the universe. However, in the real world, it’s encouraging to know there are humble and hardly noticed genuine heroes all around us. Without a desire to be praised or even recognized, there are selfless good Samaritans who are willing to sacrifice their lives so that others can live, a testament to John 15:13. The following story is an example of these heavenly secret agents.

Irena Sendler was a Polish nurse and social worker who worked in the Warsaw health department during World War II. In a

short window of time between 1942 and 1943, she, along with a small band of co-workers, led a courageous effort within the Warsaw ghetto to secretly smuggle at least 2,500 Jewish babies and children away from facing the certainty of the German concentration camps. She and her small team of helpers were members of Zegota, an underground organization established in 1940 by the Polish government for the purpose of rescuing Polish Jews. The team was given permission by the Nazis to enter the ghetto to help segregate the city’s 380,000 Jews, and this was the window of opportunity that helped with the dangerous undercover plan to secretly smuggle babies and young children to safety.

The Zegota used every idea possible to rescue

the innocent, which included hiding them in toolboxes and under gurneys, sneaking them into ambulances, taking them through sewer pipes or other underground passageways, wheeling them out in suitcases, and leading them out through an old courtyard which led to the non-Jewish areas. Irena carefully recorded the names of the children on cigarette papers and sealed them in glass bottles, which she buried in a colleague’s flower garden. After the war, the jars were dug up and the lists handed over to Jewish representatives. Attempts were made to reunite the children with their families, but sadly, most of the parents had perished in the Treblinka death camp.

Irena was arrested in October 1943 and taken to Gestapo

headquarters where she was interrogated to surrender information about the leaders of Zegota. She endured severe beatings which included her legs and feet being broken. With orders to be executed, (with what many consider to be a miracle from Heaven), a secret deal was made at the last minute between Zegota and her would-be executioner, and she was released. Irena was later found unconscious along the side of the road and had to use crutches for the rest of her life as a result of her injuries.

One of the 2500 names placed in the jars was Michal Glowinski, who became a professor of literature. He said, “I fondly think about her and owe my life to her.” Elzbieta Ficowska was another name who came forward to say how eternally grateful she was for

the heroic actions of the Zegota team. In her case, she had been smuggled out of the ghetto inside a large toolbox when she was just five months old.

Unlike the German industrialist Oskar Schindler, who saved more than 1,000 Jews by employing them at his Krakow factory and is widely recognized thanks to an award-winning book and film, Mrs. Sendler’s story remained relatively unknown until a few years ago when it was discovered in America by a group of Kansas school children who wrote a play about it called “Life in a Jar.” Word spread very quickly, and now the world is aware of her and her team saving many defenseless victims of the Nazi ideology. When interviewed, Irena sternly insisted she did nothing special and is quoted as saying, “I was brought up to believe that a person must

be rescued when drowning, regardless of religion and nationality. The thought of being considered a hero irritates me greatly as I continue to have pangs within my conscience that I did so little. My emotions are overshadowed by the fact that my faithful co-workers, who also constantly risked their lives, did not live long enough to share their sorrow for those they could not save.” She spent her last years in a Warsaw nursing home and passed away in 2008. “Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others” Philippians 2:3-4.

SOBER-MINDED

Bro. Brandon G. Bramlett
Bandana Baptist Church

I couldn’t see straight. My mind was swirling like a rollercoaster. Time came to a standstill, but I couldn’t stand still at all. In a moment of youthful genius, I popped a big ol’ pinch of chewing tobacco into my lip after my friend asked, “You ever had Copenhagen?”

Refusing to look like a wimp, I cleared my throat and said, “Had it? I love this stuff.”

Plot twist: it did not love me back. Within minutes, I looked less like Clint Eastwood and more like a nauseated

youngster who swore off carnival rides forever. Nicotine surged into my bloodstream, and I couldn’t think or speak clearly. I saw stars like Bugs Bunny

and promptly plummeted off the back of my friend’s four-wheeler. That was the first time I experienced any kind of intoxication, and it taught me a valuable lesson: when your mind is fuzzy, your body follows.

The Scripture also teaches this invaluable lesson: a clouded mind leads to a careless soul. That is why the Bible repeatedly

commands believers to be “sober-minded” (Titus 2:2; 2 Tim. 4:5; 1 Peter 1:13). And this means much more than abstaining from alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs. Biblical sobriety is about keeping your mind alert, clear, and free from spiritual intoxication. When intoxicated, a person is out of touch with reality—and when we are spiritually inebriated, we become out of touch with what is holy.

One sip from the bottle of lies sold by sin, Satan, and society is all it takes to start

seeing double. A few breaths of the smoke of worldliness makes it impossible to walk a straight line on the path of righteousness. The potent pills of constant distractions can impair your conscience, making you desensitized to sin and numb to spiritual danger. For this reason, Paul warned, “Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning” (1 Cor. 15:34a). Soul-intoxication fogs your senses and leads to sin, and the antidote is snapping out of it through

sober-mindedness.

Spiritual drunkenness also hinders your readiness for Christ’s return. Thus, Paul exhorted: “So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober (1 Thess. 5:6). Peter likewise warned that the devil targets Christians who are half-awake, bleary-eyed, and mind-numbed (1 Peter 5:8). He even stated that spiritual inebriation stifles our prayers: “Therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers” (1 Peter

4:7b). Hence, being sober-minded is indispensable for conflict against Satan and communion with the Son.

Do not wait until you are spiritually slumped over to learn this lesson the hard way. Resist spiritual sedatives and let God renew your mind through His word (Rom. 12:2). Don’t allow spiritual toxins to captivate your mind—let Christ take your thoughts captive (2 Cor. 10:5). Be sober-minded because sin is seductive, Satan is stalking, and the Savior is soon to return.

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Commissioner Shell joins 11 State Ag Leaders to express strong support for USDA's National Farm Security Action Plan

FRANKFORT, Ky. – Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell, along with 11 of his fellow agriculture leaders from across the country serving on the America First Agriculture Commissioner Council, has penned a letter of support for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) newly announced National Farm Security Action Plan. In their joint letter, these State Departments of Agriculture voiced unified backing for this vital Plan that will protect America's farmland and strengthen national security.

Agriculture commissioners, secretaries, and directors from the following states signed the letter: Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.

"American farmland is a strategic asset," the letter states. "It sustains our food supply, powers rural economies, and contributes directly to the health and sovereignty of our nation."

With rising concerns over increasing foreign interest in U.S. farmland — particularly near military installations and critical infrastructure — and after years of subsequent inaction

from the previous administration, the Plan takes decisive steps to safeguard agricultural land ownership and address supply chain vulnerabilities. The National Farm Security Action Plan specifically aims to tighten reporting and enforcement under the Agricultural Foreign Investment and Disclosure Act (AFIDA), enhance penalties for noncompliance, and strengthen USDA oversight to ensure America retains control over its critical food systems.

The Plan also secures various facets of American agriculture beyond protecting farmland. It evaluates all USDA programs — including rural development, research, and nutrition — to ensure they put America First. Additional measures focus on securing supply chains protecting plant and animal health from invasive species and foreign animal diseases and calling upon State partners in government to pursue similar measures.

"The USDA's leadership in developing this comprehensive Plan, and working across other federal Departments, shows a clear commitment to putting American farmers and ranchers first," Commissioner Shell said. "Protecting our

farmland and food systems from foreign influence and biosecurity threats is critical not only to our agricultural economy but to the national security of the United States. I'm proud to join colleagues from across the nation in supporting this important work."

The letter highlights the crucial role the USDA plays as a "load-bearing wall" in the nation's security, coordinating with federal, state, and local partners, as well as the intelligence community, to secure the integrity of food systems and critical agricultural infrastructure.

State agriculture leaders emphasized the importance of transparency and close collaboration with stakeholders — including farmers, ranchers, and tribal communities — to safeguard America's agricultural productivity and preserve farmland for future generations.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture remains dedicated to supporting policies and programs that protect Kentucky farms and ensure a strong, secure, and resilient agricultural sector for the Commonwealth and the nation.

For more information on Kentucky's agricultural initiatives, visit kyagr.com.

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The bottom line is that high-tension banding is faster, easier, and less traumatic for the animal than surgical castration."

Matt Sween, UC Davis, Animal Science Department

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Power outage caused by agriculture drone

In the evening hours of July 9, 362 Jackson Purchase Energy consumer-members experienced a power outage caused by an agricultural drone that came into contact with overhead power lines. Flying near power lines is extremely dangerous and is strictly regulated. We urge Drone Operators to follow all safety guidelines and flight restrictions to prevent future incidents.

Safety First:

- Stay away from any downed power lines or damaged electrical equipment.
- Do not approach or attempt to retrieve the drone. Power lines may

still be energized and extremely dangerous.

- If you see smoke, sparks, or fire, call 911 immediately.

Our crews responded and worked to restore power as quickly and safely as possible. We appreciate the patience of our consumer-members during this brief outage.

As always, if you have urgent concerns or need assistance, please contact us at 270-442-7321 or online at jpenergy.com. Thank you again for your patience and for allowing us to serve your community.

Like us on Facebook and view our website at www.jpenergy.com for

up-to-date information.

JPEC is a non-profit, member-owned rural electric cooperative headquartered in Paducah, KY. The Cooperative provides electric service to more than 30,000 consumer-members and maintains more than 2,900 miles of line in all or portions of six counties: Ballard, Carlisle, McCracken, Graves, Marshall and Livingston. JPEC is one of 24 rural electric distribution cooperatives in Kentucky, which together provide electricity for 1.5 million Kentuckians in 117 of Kentucky’s 120 counties.

Tommy Vance

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THURSDAY, JULY 24TH, 2025 @ 12:00 PM

210 MAXWELL STREET, GRAND RIVERS, KY 42045

THURSDAY

July 24th, 2025

@ 12:00 PM

Auction Held

OnSite & OnLine

RAIN or SHINE!

8.80±

ACRES

in 3 Tracts

& Combinations

PUBLIC PREVIEW DATES:

Mon., July 14th, 10 am - 12 pm

Sun., July 20th, 1 pm - 3 pm

AN OUTSTANDING 8.0± ACRE DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY IN THE HEART OF GRAND RIVERS, KY – within walking distance of Patti's 1880s Settlement, shops, restaurants, and the scenic shores of Kentucky Lake and Lake Barkley, both less than a mile away. With no restrictions, utilities available, and a newly updated city water/sewer system, this property is ideal for residential, commercial, or mixed-use development.

THIS IS A FULLY OPERATIONAL BUSINESS OFFERING IMMEDIATE CASH FLOW FROM DAY ONE. With existing infrastructure including campsites, multiple residential units, and strong tourism traffic in Grand Rivers, the property presents a rare turnkey investment. Potential annual income based on market of \$400,200.00 at full occupancy. Current annual income based on full occupancy is \$325,200.00. Whether you continue its current use or implement new development plans, the income potential is substantial.

TRACT 1: Maxwell Street – 6± Acres

• 54 Campsites

• 210 Maxwell Street: 3BR/2BA Manufactured Home (Management HQ), granite counters, attached & detached garages

• 216A Maxwell Street: 2BR/1.5BA, laundry room, eat-in kitchen

• 216B Maxwell Street: 2BR/1.5BA, stone fireplace, eat-in kitchen

• Small 1BR Cabin with Loft (no running water)

• BATH HOUSE: laundry, 2 half baths, 2 showers

TRACT 2: 136 Chandler Court – 2.18± Acres

• 1842 Log Cabin: 2BR/2BA, laundry, sunroom, eat-in kitchen, large stone fireplace

• 2BR/1BA Manufactured Home

• Efficiency Apartment: 1BR/1BA open floor plan

TRACT 3: 1664 Twelfth Street – 0.5± Acre

• 1BR/1BA Mobile Home (744 SF) with eat-in kitchen & large side/rear deck

TRACT 1 - BATH HOUSE

TRACT 1 - OFFICE

TRACT 2 - LOG CABIN

TRACT 3 - MOBILE HOME

INCOME PRODUCING OPPORTUNITY!

• Development Potential - NO RESTRICTIONS

• Walking Distance to Patti's 1880s Settlement, Shops, The Badgett Playhouse & Entertainment

• Less than 1 Mile to Kentucky Lake & Lake Barkley

• City Upgrades: New Sewer & Water System

• Utilities Available: Natural Gas, Sewer, Electric

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REAL ESTATE TERMS: A 10% buyer's premium will be added to the final bid price & included in contract price. A 15% deposit is due day of auction, balance due in 30 days. The property is being sold on an "AS IS, WHERE IS" basis, and no warranty or representation, either express or implied, concerning the property is made by the Seller or Auction Company. Each potential bidder is responsible for conducting his or her own independent inspections, investigations, inquiries, and due diligence concerning the property. Make Inspections Prior To Date Of Sale. SURVEY: Selling by the current deed.

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HOMES - FARMLAND

ESTATES - WATERFRONT

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KENTUCKY LAKEFRONT AUCTION OPPORTUNITY!

ABSOLUTE SATURDAY, JULY 26TH, 2025 @ 10 AM

REAL ESTATE AUCTION 416 ALBEN BARKLEY LANE • BENTON, KY 42025

KING BEAR ESTATES

on Kentucky Lake!

• PREMIER WATERFRONT HOME WITH DOCK • UNFINISHED HOME ON TRACT 2

• 4 SCENIC TRACTS AT KING BEAR

TRACT 1 - BOAT RAMP & DOCK

TRACT 2 - WALK-OUT BASEMENT HOME - UNFINISHED

• 6 TRACTS SELLING ABSOLUTE - KING BEAR ESTATES!

PUBLIC PREVIEW DATES:

Friday, July 11 from 5-6 pm

Wednesday, July 16 from 5-6 pm

TRACT 1 DETAILS – 416 Alben Barkley Lane. This premier WATERFRONT HOME offers the perfect blend of comfort, space, and stunning views of Kentucky Lake. Set on a gently sloping 0.51-acre lot with private dock access, the property features a spacious layout with 3 to 4 bedrooms—two on the main level and one to two in the finished basement—along with two full bathrooms. The eat-in kitchen and cozy loft provide additional living and entertaining space, while the expansive living area boasts floor-to-ceiling windows that frame breathtaking panoramic lake views. A detached 4-car garage includes a fully equipped apartment, ideal for hosting guests or generating rental income. This is an exceptional opportunity to enjoy lakefront living at its finest.

TRACT 2 DETAILS – 384 Alben Barkley Lane offers a home with a walkout basement, currently under construction and ready for you to finish to suit your style and needs. The layout includes 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom, providing a great foundation for a customized lake retreat or income-producing investment. Situated on a spacious 1.84-acre lot, this property presents a unique opportunity to create your ideal getaway in a desirable location.

TRACTS 3 - 6 DETAILS: Excellent Building Lots – Tract 3: 0.59 Acre – Lot #38 – Tract 4: 0.55 Acre – Lot #39 – Tract 5: 0.54 Acre – Lot #55 – Tract 6: 0.64 Acre – Lot #56 – Steps away from Kentucky Lake access—perfect for boating, fishing, and recreation!

REAL ESTATE TERMS: The property will be offered in 6 individual tracts, any combination of tracts, or as a whole property. The property will be sold in the manner resulting in the highest total sale price. A 10% Buyer's Premium will be added to the final bid and included in the deed transaction sale price. 15% as down payment on the day of the auction with balance in cash at closing on or before 30 days. The down payment may be in the form of cashier's check, personal check, or corporate check. The property will be sold by current deed. YOUR BIDDING IS NOT CONDITIONAL UPON FINANCING, SO BE SURE YOU HAVE ARRANGED FINANCING, IF NEEDED, AND ARE CAPABLE OF PAYING CASH AT CLOSING. Closing shall take place on or before 30 days from auction date. All 2025 ad valorem taxes will be prorated at closing.

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TRACT 10: 26.65+/-

TRACT 7: 30+/-

TRACT 9: 53+/-

TRACT 8: 37+/-

TRACT 6: 57+/-

TRACT 4: 28+/-

TRACT 5: 52+/-

TRACT 3: 26+/-

TRACT 1: 5.5+/-

TRACT 2: 2+/-

10 TRACTS

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A customer with an armload of berries files out of the roadside farmstand at McGlasson Farms. The farm is in its sixth generation of operation along the Ohio River in Boone County.

Sixth generation at McGlasson Farms put the ‘u’ back in fruit picking

By Chris Aldridge
Kentucky Ag News

TAYLORSPOUT, Ky. – In the 1860s, Henry McGlasson moved west from Virginia and built a small log cabin on the south bank of the Ohio River a couple of miles downstream from Cincinnati. The original cabin still remains inside a farmhouse, which has been expanded, remodeled, and up until last year, occupied by Henry’s great grandson. The sixth generation of the McGlasson family is still farming 120 acres of rich bottomland soil in Boone County between the river and the Cincinnati/ Northern Kentucky International Airport. “We’ve lived and farmed this land for 150-plus years,” said Jack McGlasson, a landscape architect by day who co-owns and operates McGlasson Farms with his brother, who tends the farm full-time. “For the longest time, like when I was a kid, my great grandparents and my grandparents see *GENERATION*, page B13

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Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corp. approves more than \$3.1 million in loans

Financing bolsters beef, forage, poultry, and grain farmers across the state

FRANKFORT — The Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corp. (KAFC) approved 16 agricultural loans totaling \$3,123,625 for projects across the Commonwealth today at its monthly board meeting.

Agricultural Infrastructure Loan Program (AILP) Three Agricultural Infrastructure loans totaling up to \$650,000 were approved. Loan recipients were in Laurel (\$250,000), Monroe (\$150,000), and Todd (\$250,000) counties.

KAFC participates with lenders to provide financing to producers making capital expenditures for agricultural projects through the AILP. Eligible projects include permanent farm structures with attached equipment that improves the profitability of farming operations. Producers may be eligible for up to \$250,000 not to exceed 50 percent of the project.

Agricultural Processing Loan Program (APLP) One Agricultural Processing loan for \$150,000 was approved in Gallatin County.

APLP is designed to provide loan opportunities to companies and individuals in Kentucky interested in adding value to Kentucky-grown agricultural commodities through further processing. Agricultural processors may qualify for financing for acquisition of equipment, construction of new facilities, renovation/expansion of existing facilities and permanent working capital up to 50 percent of the project cost.

experience who desire to develop, expand, or buy into a farming operation. Beginning farmers may qualify for financing to purchase livestock, equipment, or agriculture facilities; to secure permanent working capital; for the purchase of farm real estate; or to invest in a partnership or LLC.

For more information on KAFC participation loans, contact your lender or Bill McCloskey at Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 382-6093 or email kafc@ky.gov.

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AUCTION

THURSDAY
JULY 24TH
4 PM - 6 PM CT

PROPERTY LOCATION:
at the intersection of CR 1475 E and 2500 N.

111.4+/- total acres

TRACT 1: 40+/- Acres
36.7+/- Woods • 2.9+/- Tillable
0.4+/- Non-Tillable

TRACT 2: 71.4+/- Acres
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6.4+/- Non-Tillable • 0.5+/- Other

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Beginning Farmer Loan Program (BFLP)
Twelve Beginning Farmer loans totaling up to \$2,323,625 were approved. Loan recipients were in Anderson (\$87,500 and \$174,375), Bourbon (\$250,000), Garrard (\$247,500), Hart (\$70,500), Lincoln (\$225,000), Logan (\$250,000), Marshall (\$250,000), McLean (\$250,000), Monroe (\$250,000), Nelson (\$56,250), and Rockcastle (\$212,500) counties.

The BFLP is designed to assist individuals with some farming

###

The Kentucky Office of Agricultural Policy (KOAP), a division within the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, provides staff support to the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation (KAFC) and the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund (KADF). The KADF is administered by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board. KOAP ensures Kentucky is being good stewards of dollars from the 1998 Tobacco Settlement Agreement by overseeing the boards' investments into diversifying and supporting Kentucky agriculture.

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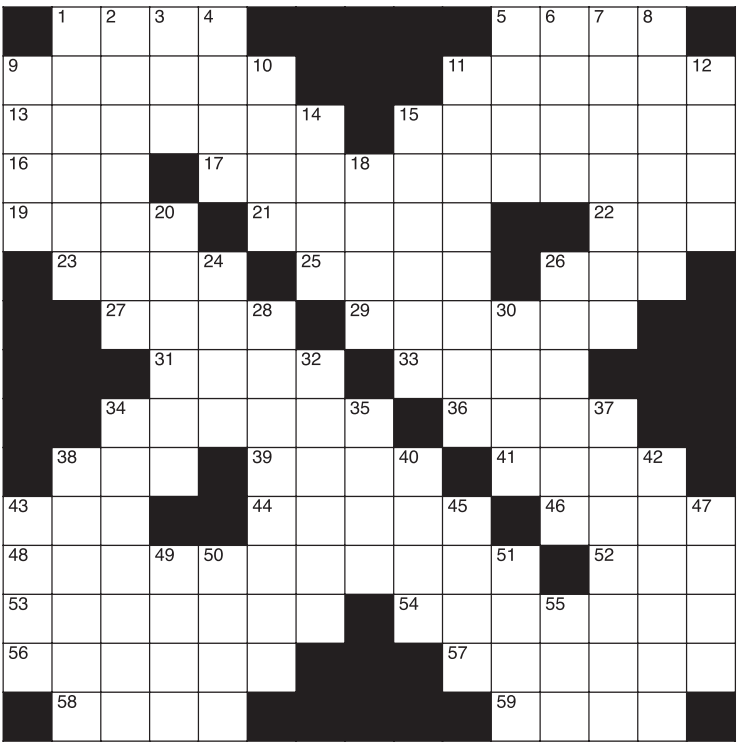


Enduraplas Nurse Trailers
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Enduraplas Tanks/Trailers

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Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

1. Resorts
5. One point south of southwest
9. Musical performances
11. Matched
13. Four-footed animal part
15. Express severe disapproval of
16. Type of leaf
17. Preparatory
19. Walk heavily
21. Succulent plants
22. Rectangle of grass
23. Lump in yarn
25. Too
26. Foot (Latin)
27. Afflicts
29. Smoothed
31. Mind (Greek)
33. Tampa ballclub
34. Semitic language
36. Sheltered sides
38. Ocean
39. Electronic point of sale
41. Thrust a knife into
43. 12th month (abbr.)
44. Ringworm
46. Father of Aoris (Greek myth.)
48. Fighting back
52. Cease to exist
53. Insects in adult stage
54. Freestanding sculpture
56. Caps
57. Repents
58. Brown and Wallace are two
59. Moved quickly

CLUES DOWN

1. Goes bad
2. Yard structure
3. They __
4. Marine invertebrate
5. European river
6. Office supplies firm
7. Physically abused
8. Service stations in Australia
9. Kills
10. Liquid body substances
11. Particular to a given individual
12. Brave or noble act
14. Sicilian city
15. Conqueror
18. Elected officials
20. Type of “pig”
24. Drop of viscous substance
26. Monetary unit of Spain
28. Guarantees
30. Coloring materials
32. Reddish browns
34. Square measure
35. Will not
37. Canned fish
38. Appeared
40. Six (Spanish)
42. Took off
43. Negligible amount
45. Posts in a Greek temple
47. Witnesses
49. Phil __, former CIA
50. Places to park
51. Guns
55. Dance to pop music

PUZZLE SOLUTION



Coloring Fun



Word Search

STAY COOL WORD SEARCH



Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

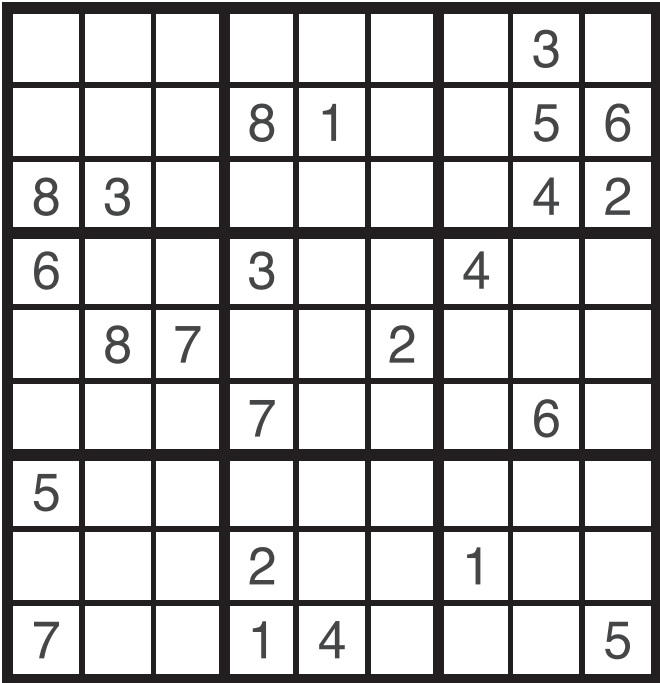
WORDS

- AIRFLOW
- CAPACITY
- COIL
- CONDENSATE
- CONDENSER
- COOL
- DAMPER
- DIFFUSER
- DUCTWORK
- EFFICIENCY
- EVAPORATOR
- FAN
- FILTER
- HANDLER
- HEAT PUMP
- HUMIDITY
- HVAC
- REFRIGERANT
- SYSTEM
- TEMPERATURE
- THERMOSTAT
- VAPOR
- VENTS
- ZONES

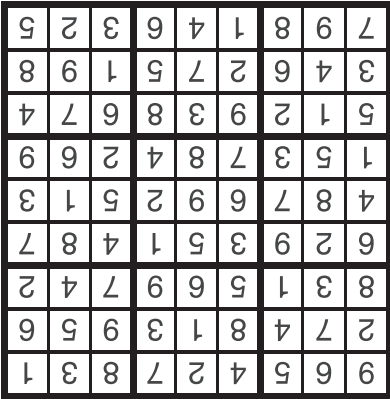
Sudoku Puzzle

How it Works:

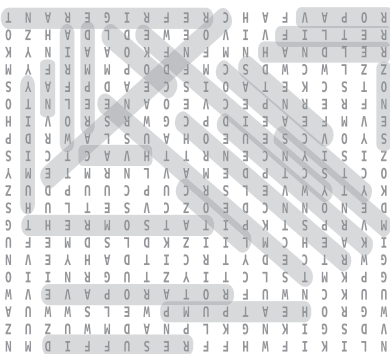
Sudoku puzzles are fomatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle! Good Luck!



Sudoku Answers



Word Search Answers



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