

Bourbon County has three 2025 certified farm markets

BY KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Hatmaker Homestead, Pope Family Farms and Stepping Stone Farm, all located in Bourbon County, have been accepted into the 2025 Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) Certified Farm Market Program, which is celebrating its 30th year.

As members of this prestigious program, these markets have committed to providing top-quality products and services to their customers. This certification ensures that each market meets the highest standards of quality, freshness, and marketing appeal.

“For three decades, Kentucky Farm

Bureau’s Certified Farm Market program has been a huge benefit to both communities and hardworking farm families across the commonwealth,” said KFB President Eddie Melton. “It gives markets valuable resources, credibility and a support network, and it’s also a seal of approval that lets consumers know the food they’re buying was grown and raised by their trusted neighbors.”

Hatmaker Homestead, located at 555 Tarr Road in Paris, sells fresh produce, pasture-raised poultry, as well as cut flowers. Open from May to October, the store also carries Kentucky Proud products such as honey, Weisenberger products,

jams, pickles and freeze-dried items. For more information, visit www.hatmakerhomestead.com.

Located at 964 Peacock Road in Paris, Pope Family Farm offers farm-raised vegetables, fruit, pork, chicken, turkey and beef, as well as Kentucky Proud canned goods. Open year round, the farm also offers seasonal decorative items — flowers and plants in the spring, and mums, pumpkins, straw and more in the fall. Go to www.popefamilyfarms.com for more.

At Stepping Stone Farm, located in a quiet corner of Bourbon and Harrison County at 1674 Cynthiana Road in Paris, visitors can spend the day picking their own produce like

strawberries, apples or pumpkins, or shopping in the store for homemade goods from partnering local vendors. Open from May to October, the market’s events include a Strawberry Festival in May and Blueberry Pancake Breakfast in June. With a proud heritage, the same land has been farmed there since 1790. Visit steppingstonefarmky.com to learn more.

The KFB Certified Farm Market logo identifies markets certified through this program, and they are listed in the online directory. The program also provides collective advertising, promotional items, educational tour opportunities, and

other marketing benefits, with the aim of increasing the net farm income of member markets.

Consumers can find the KFB Certified Farm Market Rack Card at Kentucky welcome centers, state resort parks, local chambers of commerce/tourism centers, and county Farm Bureau offices. For a complete list of markets, visit the KFB Certified Farm Market website at kyfb.com/certified or download the KFB App.

For more information, visit the website, e-mail kfbcertified@kyfb.com, or "Like" the Facebook page at facebook.com/KYCertifiedFarmMarket.

Thomas Farms accepted to 2025 certified farm program

BY KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU

Thomas Farms LLC, located in Harrison County, has been accepted into the 2025 Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) Certified Farm Market Program, which is celebrating its 30th year.

As a member of this prestigious program, Thomas Farms has committed to providing top-quality products and services to their customers. This certification ensures that

each market meets the highest standards of quality, freshness, and marketing appeal.

“For three decades, Kentucky Farm Bureau’s Certified Farm Market program has been a huge benefit to both communities and hardworking farm families across the commonwealth,” said KFB President Eddie Melton. “It gives markets valuable resources, credibility and a support network, and it’s also a seal of approval that lets

consumers know the food they’re buying was grown and raised by their trusted neighbors.”

Located at 930 U.S. 27 S., Suite 5 in Cynthiana, Thomas Farms LLC is a Kentucky Proud grocery store specializing in grass-fed and grass-finished beef. It also offers a wide selection of other Kentucky Proud products, including seasonal fresh produce, pasture-raised pork, free-range chicken, farm-fresh

eggs, pasteurized whole milk, Browning’s country ham, Rocky Ridge hemp products, Boone Creek Creamery cheese and butter, a complete line of Weisenberger Mills products, local honey and jams, Highbridge Springs water, microgreens, elderberry syrup and gummies, seasonings, marinades and more. The market is open year round. Visit www.facebook.com/thomasfarms2019 for additional

details.

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For more information, visit the website, e-mail kfbcertified@kyfb.com, or "Like" the Facebook page at facebook.com/KYCertifiedFarmMarket.

VanHook awarded Phi Kappa Phi study abroad grant

Caroline VanHook of Cynthiana recently was awarded a Study Abroad Grant worth \$1,000 from The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi—the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. VanHook is one of 75 students nationwide to receive the award.

The grants are designed to support undergraduates, both members and nonmembers from campuses that have Phi Kappa Phi chapters, as they seek expanded knowledge and

experience in their academic fields by studying abroad.

Currently majoring in human health science at University of Kentucky, VanHook will use the grant to study abroad in Paris, France.

The selection process for a study abroad grant is based on the applicant’s academic achievement, campus and community service, relation of travel to academic preparation and career goals, a personal statement, letters of recommendation, and acceptance into a study abroad

program. Each recipient receives \$1,000 to be applied toward travel abroad.

Established in 2001, the Study Abroad Grant Program is part of the Society’s robust portfolio of award and grant programs, which currently gives more than \$1 million each year to outstanding students and members through graduate and dissertation fellowships, funding for post-baccalaureate development, and grants for local, national and international literacy initiatives.

MCTC hosts 56th annual commencement ceremony

MAYSVILLE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Maysville Community and Technical College recently held its 56th commencement ceremony at the Montgomery County Arena in Mount Sterling.

With more than 170 students participating in the ceremony.

Following an invocation by graduate Nola Roberts, MCTC President/CEO Dr. Laura McCullough and MCTC Board of Directors Chair Jason Slone welcomed attendees to the ceremony before presenting the President’s Award of Excellence, given to one graduating student from each campus.

This year’s recipients were Katy Linville (Licking Valley), McKinnley Dietrich (Maysville), Christopher Humphries

(Montgomery) and Maranda Swartz (Rowan).

Following remarks by Dietrich and Swartz, graduates were presented by Dr. Dana Calland, vice president of Academic Services, and degrees were conferred by McCullough.

Members of the class of 2025 from Harrison County who participated are: Avery Elizabeth Barnes, Johnnie King Brooks, Isabella Grace Burgess, Paul Robert Copes, Raven Brooke Cox, Makenzie Paige Florence, Delaney Taylor Fryman, Lena Fryman, Dorothy Charlene Hamilton, Chasity Harney, Mia Lynn Hill, Sean P Hill, Dustin A Himes, Patricia Ann Johnson, Katy Beth Linville, Laina M Maldonado, Kelsey Dawn Marx, Ryleigh Jean Mattox, Breanna Leigh Moss, Pamela T Napier, Susan Denise Pike, Autumn Marie Westfall and Jessica Joe Wilson.

Midway announces Spring 2025 Dean's List

Midway University is pleased to announce the students who have been named to its Dean's List for the 2025 Spring Semester. To be named to the list, a

student must be classified full-time and obtain a 3.60 grade point average for the semester. There were 448 students who made the Dean's List this fall, including the following local

students:

Cody Griffith of Cynthiana
Courtney Kilpatrick of Sadieville
Madison Ward of Sadieville
Layken Wright of Cynthiana

BEST

FROM PAGE B2

you again.

A pastor friend once told me that a benediction is a “blessing with the power of God behind it.”

I love that!

I also love how Christianity Today writer Lee Eclov explains it: A benediction is a “good word, the best of words from God.”

“I hope the Lord blesses you” — but a declaration — “The Lord blesses you. He really does!”

“It doesn’t tell us what God WILL do for us, but what God is doing ever and always for his people,” Eclov writes. “It’s sort of an uber-promise. When a pastor raises his hands and says these words of benediction as an emissary of the Lord himself, then God’s people really are blessed.”

Often, a pastor will say, “Let’s stand for the benediction.” Some will invite the people to hold out their hands, palms up, as a reminder that a blessing from God is to be received, a gift of grace.

“Please rise and receive the benediction,” the pas-

tor might say.

As Eclov writes, “Ultimately, that’s the secret to being blessed. We must receive what God gives, and we do that by faith.”

At my church, the pastor often begins his benediction by saying how much he loves worshipping with us. He’ll say, “I needed to see your faces, hear your voices singing.”

I love that so much.

And then he’ll read a verse of scripture, something encouraging and comforting:

“The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you...and give you peace” (Numbers 6:24-26).

“May the God of peace

himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

“Remember I (Jesus) am with you always, even unto the end of the world” (Matthew 28:20).

“Now to him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy...” (Jude 24).

Good words — best words!

So to pastors and parishioners alike, let's not forget the benediction where the Lord blesses you and me. He really does.

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**LEGAL NOTICE**
Notice of Public Hearing

The Harrison County Board of Adjustment will hold a regular meeting on June 23, 2025 at 6:00 PM on the 2nd Floor of Court-house at 111 S. Main St. to hear the following:

A. #2025-HB-01, Levi Swartzentruber-Request for Conditional Use for custom cabinets and furniture making at 732 Commonwealth Lane. Zoning: Agricultural One (A-1). (Art. 10 Sec. 10.0.C.22)

B. #2025-HB-02, Richard T. Harris-Request for Conditional Use for custom butcher service at 395 Bedford Way. Zoning: Agricultural One Planned Unit Development (A1-PUD). (Art. 10 Sec. 10.0.C.22)

BACK

FROM PAGE B3

legislation are:

—A preemption of state laws that set different rules for paying players, which amounts to “competitive advantage stuff” for state legislatures seeking to give their public universities a recruiting edge.

“That’s not just an issue for the NCAA on a level-playing-field basis, it’s an issue for the conferences,” Baker said.

Greg Sankey, the commissioner of the Southeastern Conference, agrees with that, recently saying that it was not good to have a league spanning 12 states operating under 12 different laws guiding player payments and other elements of college sports.

—A ban on college athletes being deemed employees. Recently, Tennessee athletic director Danny White suggested collective bargaining for players was “the



George Walker IV/AP photo


NCAA President Charlie Baker attends the organization's annual convention in Nashville, Tenn., on Jan. 15, 2025

only solution.” Whether that would lead to a direct employment model is difficult to know, but Baker said he’s not the only one against it.

“This is something every student leadership group I’ve ever talked to has pretty strong feelings about,” he

said. “They want to be students who play sports, they don’t want to be employees because a lot of them worry about what the consequences for their time as students will be if they’re obliged to be employees first.”

Yoder’s Custom Built Mini Barns Owner ~ Seth Yoder
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**LEGAL NOTICE**
ADVERTISED JUNE 2025
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE FOLLOWING SETTLEMENTS WERE FILED IN THE HARRISON DISTRICT COURT FOR APPROVAL. ANY OBJECTIONS OR EXCEPTIONS TO THE SETTLEMENT SHALL BE PRESENTED AND HEARD BY THE HARRISON DISTRICT COURT ON JULY 24, 2025.

DECEDENT/MINOR//SETTLEMENT//FIDUCIARY/GUARDIAN		
BETTY POPE	FINAL	DARYLL POPE
THEODORE WILSON	FINAL	SUETTA WILSON DICKENSON
ALYSSA RICE	PERIODIC	DONNA RICE
BENTLEY RICE	PERIODIC	DONNA RICE
LAYLA DAVIS	FINAL	CLAYTON & ALEXANDRIA WHITE
KAILAN BACON	FINAL	KRISTEN BACON
BRANSON KELLY	FINAL	LOIS TURNER

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