

Kentucky Proud hosts Retail Readiness Workshop to support agriculture producers

Press Release

FRANKFORT, Ky. – Kentucky Proud®, the official marketing program of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, hosted a one-day Retail Readiness workshop in Lexington, equipping Kentucky producers with strategies to expand their market reach.

The workshop, now in its second year, partnered with the Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD) and the University of Kentucky's MarketReady Producer Training Program,

providing an overview of marketing trends, peer-to-peer panels, discussions, product reviews, and advice from a variety of local retailers, as well as hands-on workshops for marketing planning and story development.

“We had an astounding turnout at the one-day workshop for Kentucky agriculture producers,” Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell said. “Agriculture is economic development and creating pathways to help our producers develop a plan for a larger market share benefits for both the

producers and the state.”

Attendees learned from the retail community including representatives from Meijer, Kroger, Stepping Stone Farm, and The Frazier History Museum Gift Shop to identify local products that are best matched for placement, as well as the process for new vendors and safety certifications.

“Partnering with Kentucky Proud and participating in events like today's provides us with a valuable opportunity to build direct relationships with local suppliers,” said Meijer Supplier

Relations Manager Travis Reams.

Attendees heard from other agricultural producers such as the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association and Wildcat Mountain Dairy who are successfully selling in the retail space and support their products with marketing plans.

“I made two contacts for new business from the exposure and networking. I want to focus on sampling where we are already located to build up sales,” said Leslea Barnes, third-generation farmer from Barnes Farm & Mill-

ing Company. “I intend to utilize existing email database options to reach customers for repeat orders and to maximize the return on the point of sale software I already have. I'd like to focus on building up and improving where we are and use that knowledge to expand to other locations.”

Each participant left the workshop with the building blocks for a personalized marketing plan and an outline for their story, ready to approach potential buyers with confidence. Participants also submitted products to be re-

viewed anonymously by mass retailers, specialty retailers, and industry design professionals who provided coaching and feedback on the overall marketability and attractiveness of their items.

The workshop served as a stepping-stone for producers preparing for a Kentucky Proud Vendor Expo taking place Sept. 18, 2026, at the Shelbyville Conference Center. The expo will provide an exclusive buyer event for emerging Kentucky Proud retail ready members.

Kim Simmons, RN, named employee of the year at Murray-Calloway County Hospital



Back Row: Scarlett Barnett, RN, Director of Emergency Services, and Reba Celsor, CEO of MCCH
Front Row: Debbie Ferguson, RN, ED Nurse Manager, and Kim Simmons, RN (2025 MCCH Employee of the Year)

MURRAY, KY – Murray-Calloway County Hospital recently named Kim Simmons, RN, as the 2025 Employee of the Year. Kim has worked at MCCH for 32 years and is a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department. The Employee of the Month recipients are selected through a nomination process in which employees submit their recommendation through a write-up, then a com-

mittee reviews each nomination, and final selection is made by the Executive Team.

Simmons was recognized by multiple members of the Emergency Department along with the following submission: “Words I would use to describe Kim are organized, tenacious, patient, compassionate, and tireless. She has a passion for making sure staff members are well educated and have the

tools they need to give excellent patient care. She thinks outside the box and isn't afraid to ask if we can try new things. Kim has organized multiple classes for staff and organized an area-wide pediatric symposium. She is always willing to lend a hand and is a great asset to our ER team and we are definitely better educated because of her efforts,” Debbie Ferguson, ER Manager.

If it Matters to YOU, It Matters to US!
Subscribe or Advertise TODAY! 270.442.7389

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BALLARD CIRCUIT COURT
CIVIL ACTION NO. 26-CI-00027
CITY OF KEVIL, KENTUCKY,
Plaintiff,

v.

THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES,
LEGATEES, CREDITORS, AND ALL OTHER
PERSONS CLAIMING THROUGH OR UNDER
BRIAN KEITH TERRELL, DECEASED, et al.,
Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a civil action has been filed in the Ballard Circuit Court, Commonwealth of Kentucky, Civil Action No. 26-CI-00027, by the City of Kevil, Kentucky, as Plaintiff, against the Unknown Spouse, Heirs, Devisees, Legatees, Creditors, and All Other Persons Claiming Through or Under Brian Keith Terrell, Deceased, and others, as Defendants.

The nature of the above action is a foreclosure proceeding concerning the following described real property situated in Ballard County, Kentucky:

Property Address: West Johnson Drive, Kevil, Kentucky 42053

Legal Description: See Attached Exhibit A

Brian Keith Terrell, the record owner of the above-described property, is deceased. No probate estate has been opened in connection with his estate in Ballard County or any other county of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

All persons having or claiming any right, title, interest, lien, or claim in or to the above-described property, including any unknown creditors of Brian Keith Terrell, Deceased, are hereby notified of the pendency of this action and are warned that failure to appear and assert such interest may result in the same being forever barred and foreclosed.

Any person claiming an interest in this matter should file an appearance in the above-referenced civil action with the Ballard Circuit Court Clerk, located at 132 North 4th Street, Wickliffe, Kentucky 42087, and should retain legal counsel to protect their rights.

This notice is published pursuant to the Kentucky Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 4.07, by order of the Ballard Circuit Court, by the duly appointed Warning Order Attorney in the above-referenced action.

Abigail C. Barnes
Warning Order Attorney
Kentucky Bar No. 93348
1701 Kentucky Ave.
P.O. Box 7525
Paducah, Kentucky 42002-7525
(270) 538-5364
Abbie@AlfordLawOffice.com

(4-10-26_AY_2x)

INNOVATIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY

Barbara Bowers M.D. PLLC
1130 Lone Oak Rd. Paducah, KY 42003

WE ARE EXCITED TO INTRODUCE

ANDREA TOOLEY M.D.



OCULOFACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY

Dr. Andrea Tooley is a board-certified Oculofacial Plastic Surgeon.

She has spent the past 10 years training and practicing Oculofacial Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgery in New York at the prestigious Mayo Clinic. In addition to periocular, upper face aesthetic and reconstructive surgery, she also specializes in the treatment of orbital inflammatory and neoplastic diseases. Dr. Tooley and her family are returning to their Western Kentucky roots to be closer to family.

Now accepting patients at:
Innovative Ophthalmology

270-415-0245

www.seebetterpaducah.com

