

Toads are an indicator species

Earlier this season, as we worked on prepping and planting, we were curious about all the small holes we saw in the ground around the vegetable garden. Then it occurred to me one day when I saw several toads about that these were toad holes! And, now it seems, that everywhere I step in the yard, vegetable garden and perennial beds there is a toad under foot. They manage to jump out of harm's way (from a rapidly approaching foot or spade) just in the nick of time. When I notice healthy populations of a good insect,



JENEEN WICHE

bug, or amphibian I like to think that they are flourishing because of the ecological balance of the farm. Toads are an indicator species suggesting in their abundance that the environment is healthy; in their absence that it is not. They live both on land and in the water and are very sensitive to their surroundings because their amphibious skin absorbs pollutants and chemicals easily. We use conventional and organic products on a very limited basis. We don't fertilize the lawn or utilize tilling

equipment so the reduced disturbance to the soil and the environment around the house and in the garden has paid off and allowed our toad population to flourish. Toads do some great things out in the garden. They have an appetite for insects including flies, mosquitoes, gnats, snails, slugs, crickets, beetles, cutworms and earthworms. An American toad can consume over 80 flies in one minute, hundreds of cutworms in a summer and even more mosquitoes. They don't see well, only fast movements like that of a fly; they prefer to stay hidden in the soil, grass or mulch until twilight and if your cat eats one it will probably be sick for a

day salivating excessively...but they sort of deserve it for eating a toad! I think one of our cats actually did so this spring because she recovered after a day of woozy behavior. There is a farm pond on the property, which probably helps maintain my toad population, as well. Toads, since they are amphibious, must head back to the water to mate. Their young must spend their first few weeks in the water as eggs through the tadpole stage until they grow legs and hop on up to the house and vegetable garden. They will return to the same place for mating year after year. It has been noted that toads will travel up to 3 miles to

return to their old stomping grounds, so to speak. Sometimes the male toad will hop on the back of the females for a free ride and perhaps a little foreplay. Old habits are hard to break, toads will even return to old mating ponds after they have dried up. That would be disappointing to find out at the last minute. I remember years ago back in the vegetable garden we had a toad that was quite recognizable. Daddy had run over him with the lawn mower by accident and

his back was cut. It healed but left a scar. We saw that toad for at least 3 seasons after, back in the garden. So, respect your toads and teach those who still view toads as creeping, wicked things otherwise. Let's help them shake the reputation that they hang out with witches all the time and cause warts. It's not true. They should be associated with the good gardener, perhaps perched on the shoulder like a parrot accompanying a most respected pirate.

Loretto Motherhouse Farm accepted to the 2025 Kentucky Farm Bureau Certified Farm Program

LOUISVILLE – Loretto Motherhouse Farm, located in Marion 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, Anderson Farm 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 515 Nerinx Road in Nerinx, Loretto Motherhouse Farm is a regenerative farm that raises grass-finished beef and seasonal select produce. The market is open year round, where beef is available by individual cuts and quarter, half or whole shares. The farm's grass-fed beef is raised without the use of antibiotic feed additives, steroids or added growth hormones. It uses a pasture-based system where cattle are provided high-quality forages

year-round. Its beef is USDA-inspected and processed at a local processor in Liberty, Ky. Seasonal produce includes sweet corn and a variety of pumpkins and other fall items. All produce is non-GMO, raised using minimal synthetic inputs and grown using no-till methods. For more, visit www.facebook.com/motherhousefarm. 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.

Dairy producers celebrated in June

FRANKFORT – Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell joined dairy industry representatives and dairy producers on Tuesday, June 3, to sign a proclamation honoring the dairy industry and June as Dairy Month in Kentucky. The proclamation was signed during Dairy Night at the Ballgame with the Bowling Green Hot Rods. “Kentucky’s dairy industry is one of the many reasons Kentucky agriculture is a shining example for others across the country,” Commissioner Shell said. “June is a perfect time to honor these hard-working individuals and an industry that brings us wholesome, delicious, and nutritious products each and every day. Through the years, our dairy partners, as a group, have made the necessary changes to adapt to a changing agricultural environment. For that and the products the industry provides, I’m happy to declare June as Dairy Month in Kentucky.” Like the cattle industry, the dairy cattle industry decreased slightly in 2025, from 43,000 milk cows the previous years to 41,000 at the beginning of January. Kentucky’s 41,000 dairy cows produce milk – the Official Beverage of Kentucky since 2005 – along with ice cream, artisan cheeses, and other tasty dairy products. Dairy farmers help provide Kentucky families with the calcium, protein, vitamins, and minerals they need to lead an active and healthy lifestyle. On average, each dairy cow produces nearly

6.7 gallons of milk a day, meaning Kentucky dairy cows produced nearly 100 million gallons of milk last year. Milk ranks eighth as a Kentucky agriculture product with Kentucky dairy producers receiving more than \$196 million in cash receipts from sales of dairy products. Kentucky has about 325 licensed dairy farms. On average each dairy cow generates more than \$13,700 in economic ripple effect each year. Barren County has the most dairy cows, followed by Adair, Logan, Christian, and Todd counties. "It has become a tradition to celebrate June Dairy Month. Dairy farmers dedicate a lot of time to care for their cows to ensure the best quality dairy products are available for all to enjoy not only in June but all year long," said Greg Goode, Liberty dairy producer and Kentucky Dairy Development Council Director. “On behalf of all dairy farmers I would like to thank all state organizations and private businesses that enable us to be the chosen farmers that get to be able to provide quality dairy products to everyone. So, this June when you are enjoying milk, cheese, yogurt, or ice cream remember a local dairy farmer made that possible." The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) helps Kentucky dairy farmers and processors find new markets for their products and conducts dairy cattle shows across the state.

BALLARD

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and if I get a call, I was in,” he said. “If you don’t get a call, you not going.” Ballard was excited to get a phone call on May 29 from Assistant Commissioner Darren Bilberry. It was a fitting reward for a man who has dedicated nearly 30 years to working with young athletes in Marion County and the central Kentucky area. He says it was just by happenstance that he became an umpire. “I ran the Loretto Little League and there were times when my umpires wouldn’t show up and I had to step in,” Ballard said. “I didn’t have a clue about it.” Just a few years later, he responded to an ad in The Lebanon Enterprise looking for people interested in becoming a baseball umpire. “Jim Reed put together the classes and it was very structured,” Ballard said. “We



Photo courtesy of Tonia Witt/KHSAA

Gary Ballard of Loretto (far right) is officiating the Kentucky State Softball Tournament. spent a lot of times going over the rules and studying them. If we weren’t sure of something, we would call Williamsport (home of the Little League organization to find the answer.” Just a few years later, many

of the same umpires were asked to help with softball. There were some trying moments during those early years. “When we first got into it, SEE **BALLARD/PAGE B5**

LEGAL NOTICE

---- Public Notice ----

Notice is hereby given that **Hilpps Industrial Properties, LLC** of **313 Koehler Drive Lebanon, KY 40033**, has filed an application with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to construct a **Steel building with associated parking drive aisles and loading docks**. The property is located approximately at **- 85.27886 ° W", 37.56280 ° N"**. **From the intersection of U.S. Hwy 68 (Campbellsville Hwy) and KY 2154, travel North along KY 2154 for 0.59 miles and enter site on the right hand (East side).**

Any comments or objections can be submitted via email to: DOWFloodplain@ky.gov Kentucky Division of Water, Floodplain Management Section, 300 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601. Call 502-564-3410

LEGAL NOTICE

Restaurante Los Coritas with a mailing address of **116 Cyril Circle Lebanon KY 40033** hereby declares intention(s) to apply for a **Limited Restaurant License(s)** no later than **July 18, 2025** The licensed premises will be located at **116 Cyril Circle Lebanon Kentucky 40033** doing business as **Restaurante Los Coritas** The (owner(s); Principal Officers and Directors; Limited Partners; or Members) are as follows: **Owner, Marta Meza Venegas of 132 Prairie Ct Louisville KY 40229** Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing the Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control Mayo-Underwood Building 500 Mero St., 2NE33 Frankfort, Ky. 40601, within 30 days of the date of this legal publication.

LEGAL NOTICE

Belinda Lopez with a mailing address of **245 Kobert Ave. Lebanon, KY 40033** hereby declares intention(s) to apply for a **NQ Retail Malt Beverage Package License(s)** no later than **July 3, 2025** The licensed premises will be located at **118 N Proctor Knott Ave Lebanon Kentucky 40033** doing business as **La Chiapaneca** The (owner(s); Principal Officers and Directors; Limited Partners; or Members) are as follows: **Owner, Belinda Lopez of 245 Kobert Ave. Lebanon KY 40033** Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing the Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control Mayo-Underwood Building 500 Mero St., 2NE33 Frankfort, Ky. 40601, within 30 days of the date of this legal publication.

LEGAL NOTICE

CASE # 23-P-00059
Tammy Bright of the estate of Mary E. Williams has filed a final settlement and a hearing for confirmation and approval will be held on 07/16/2025 in the Marion County District Court. Any exceptions of objections to such settlement must be filed prior to that date.

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THURSDAY – 4:00 PM

Contact Customer Service at (270) 692-6026, Option 1 or classifieds@lebanonenterprise.com

Monday–Friday 8AM–4PM

***Holidays advance deadline by 24 hours.**

LEGAL NOTICE		
In accordance with the requirements of KRS 424.340, notice is hereby given that the following fiduciaries have been appointed by the Marion County District Court on the date indicated below. All persons having claims against the estate of any decedent shall present same to the fiduciary as required by law within six months after the date of the appointment of the fiduciary.		
NAME & ADDRESS OF DECEDENT OR WARD	NAME, TITLE & ADDRESS OF FIDUCIARY	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
Isabella Spalding	Kandas Fisher, Conservator	05/05/2025
c/o Cameron Franey	c/o Cameron Franey	
Golden Law Office	Golden Law Office	
771 Corporate Drive, Suite 800	771 Corporate Drive, Suite 800	
Lexington, KY 40503	Lexington, KY 40503	
MaryTewmey	Kevin Gribbins, Adm'r	05/02/2025
Village of Lebanon	c/o Kandice Engle-Gray	
101 Village Way	P.O. Box 807	
Lebanon, KY 40033	Lebanon, KY 40033	
Geneva Ewing	Julie Hunt, Exe'x	05/16/2025
Village of Lebanon	c/o Joseph R. Stewart	
Lebanon, KY 40033	224 North Spalding Ave. Lebanon, KY 40033	
William Eugene Hayden	Charles Edward Hayden, Exe'r	05/27/2025
1860 Frogtown Rd. Lebanon, KY 40033	c/o John A. Elder, IV 104 West Main Street P.O. Box 678 Lebanon, KY 40033	
Margaret Tucker	David L. Spalding, Co-Exe'r	05/29/2025
120 Horan Lane	Lisa G. Spalding, Co-Exe'x	
Lebanon, KY 40033	c/o Kandice Engle-G ray P.O. Box 807 Lebanon, KY 40033	
Lola Brown	Joseph Troy Brown, Exe'r	05/29/2025
2215 Ed Sullivan Rd. Lebanon, KY 40033	c/o Elmer J. George 105 West Main Street Lebanon, KY 40033	
Ronnie Joe Clarkson	Joseph Kyle Clarkson	05/30/2025
124 Scenic Drive	c/o Kandice Engle-Gray	
Lebanon, KY 40033	P.O. Box 807 Lebanon, KY 40033	