

Forging a strong farm bill



Congressman James Comer
U.S. Representative,
First District of Kentucky

The Farm Bill is a critical piece of legislation that shapes agriculture and food policy. It impacts everything from commodity programs and farm credit, to rural development and food and nutrition programs. This bill influences the future of American farmers and our rural economy, those who produce our food and supply many of the goods and resources we rely on as a country. It is important that we have a Farm Bill in place that benefits farmers and the rural economy, especially when rural America has seen a 52% drop in net farm income over the past five years.

As a member of the House Agriculture Committee, I've worked side-by-side with Chairman Conaway to ensure the 2018 Farm Bill upholds programs that truly make a difference in our agriculture sector, while making necessary changes to other areas, like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to lift people out of poverty and offer a path toward a successful future.

There are many challenges facing the agricultural sector. As a farmer, I know the inherent risks that come with this business and the many obstacles farmers face. The 2018 Farm Bill enhances and protects the crop insurance program that farmers and their lenders count on to manage the risk of disasters, while also encouraging the private sector to create innovative new insurance products.

I want those in the First District of Kentucky, and across the nation, who are starting out as farmers to have the tools necessary to flourish in the industry. To ensure that these tools are available and accessible, the 2018 Farm Bill provides funding for agricultural education and outreach programs to prepare the next generation of farmers. In addition, it improves upon non-land grant programs that benefit schools like Murray State University. The bill also creates a new Agricultural Youth Organization Coordinator at USDA, which will be important in working with groups preparing young folks for careers in agriculture.

I also have high hopes for the future of SNAP given the work the Agriculture Committee has done to propose constructive and empowering work requirements that are balanced with a strong investment in proven tactics to assist recipients in climbing the economic ladder. Under this bill, able-bodied adults will be required to work or participate in job-training programs at least part-time as a condition of receiving SNAP benefits. Individuals with disabilities, those 60 and older, the primary care-giver of a child under six, and pregnant mothers would be exempt from the re-

quirement. We want to help Americans carve out successful futures to help them obtain a job that provides meaningful income and a chance to improve their future.

One problem I hear repeatedly from businesses in the First District is that they cannot find workers to fill open positions. There are more than six million open jobs in our country right now and Kentucky has more than 400,000 able-bodied adults receiving SNAP benefits. Of these able-bodied Kentuckians, 71% are not working. Our goal is to bridge the gap and find a way to help more of these unemployed or underemployed individuals get the skills they need to find employment.

It's worth noting that the last time unemployment in our country was this low (3.9%) was in 2000 – we had 17 million people on SNAP at that time. Today, we have more than 41 million people on SNAP. Our economy is supporting more jobs and a higher standard of living for all Americans, and we want SNAP re-

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CARE

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care coverage. New Medicare cards with changed numbers, she said, are being mailed out to enrollees. Old cards need to be safely destroyed, not just tossed out; Medicaid patients need to be aware of the newly emerging managed plans. "Some people, like retired teachers and other state employees, have no choice," she explained. "Other people, though, do have the choice and there are representatives for managed care going around trying to get people to switch. Managed is great if you're totally healthy, but it's terrible if you get exceedingly ill. Be aware that with managed care you have a gatekeeper. There is a number you can call and change to regular medicare."

"If you try to change while you have outstanding bills, you can end up holding the bag for that," warned Rita Crabtree, CEO of Signature Health-CARE. "And there are some companies going so far as to organize 'informational' luncheons, and then when you sign in for the luncheon, you get switched"

The hospital offers free diet and nutrition counseling to diabetics along with a diabetes education once a month, pulmonology (lung) and asthma clinic, and colonoscopies by referral. There's also adult day care available for those afraid to leave a frail senior or other patient home alone, and they'll get fed 90 percent of their recommended daily calorie allowance while in care.

It's all about keeping a finger on the pulse of community concern, McFall says, and being of service. Along with dialysis, the hospital would like to add intensive outpatient behavioral therapy for drug addiction.

"We'd like to see more drug education," said

Crabtree. "We're getting more younger people and we need to know more about the signs and symptoms."

In response to an audience question, McFall said that the hospital is looking into perhaps expanding its work with remote care provider TeleHealth beyond infectious disease treatment into psychology and counseling at some point. "A lack of mental health care is one of the biggest problems in rural areas." The remote behavioral care is already in use at Signature. "It's been a huge benefit to us.

It works well," said Crabtree..

"Thank you for doing this," said Youth Development Extension Agent Susan Turner. "I feel like you're quite a progressive hospital."

"Without the community, we wouldn't be here," said McFall. "The community is very supportive, as are the physicians; after all, their families live here."

To learn more about programs and services offered at Monroe County Medical Center, call (270) 487-9231, or visit mcmccares.com.

Super Crossword

Answers

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3-BEDROOM BEDFORD STONE HOUSE & 37.73 ACRES BARN • TOOL SHED (SELLING IN 4 TRACTS)

AUCTION

**SATURDAY,
JUNE 2, 2018
9:00 A.M.**

2008 CHEVY IMPALA ANTIQUES • COLLECTIBLES • PERSONAL PROPERTY

DIRECTIONS: From Tompkinsville, take Hwy 63 North & go 5/10 mile, turn right on Hwy 839, go 6 miles to the auction site on the left side of Hwy 839. Signs posted.

DESCRIPTION OF REAL ESTATE: TRACT #1 — This tract contains **9.51 acres** mostly in pastureland and has water from a pond with county water available. This tract is under a good fence and has nice road frontage on Hwy 839.

TRACT #2 — Tract #2 consists of a nice bedford stone house sitting on a **0.94 acre** lot. This home has a living room, family room w/fireplace, large den, kitchen, dining room, 3 bedrooms, and 1.5 baths. The home has a full walkout basement that also has a kitchen area, utility room, and lots of storage space. The home has an attached 1-car carport and a large rear patio. This home has replacement windows, a new roof, central heat and air (gas), and a circle blacktop drive.

TRACT #3 — This tract consists of **.57 acres** of land with nice road frontage on Hwy 839 and county water is available to this tract.

TRACT#4 — Tract #4 consists of **25.71 acres** and has a metal barn and a metal 4-bay tool shed. This tract is watered by a pond with county water available. This tract is under good fence and has nice road frontage on Hwy 839. NOTE: This tract is very suitable to build on.

TAXES: The 2018 real estate taxes will be prorated as of the date of closing.

CAR: Selling is a nice 2008 Chevrolet Impala car with 10,252 miles.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES: Oak buffet; maple library table; round pedestal table; oak table; oak dresser; old tables; oak rocking chair; iron bed; Victrola & old records; old dresser; ladder back chairs; quilt chest; metal kitchen table w/6 chairs; several ladder back chairs; Singer treddle sewing machine; large ornate mirrors; several old prints; Gone With The Wind lamp; other old lamps; 2 white hobnail lamps; lots of depression glassware (bowls, compotes, trays, relish dish, footed bowls, etc.); 14 small preserve stands; 3 medium preserve stands; 2 large preserve stands; green depression glassware; red glassware; lots of glass trays & bowls; blue Moon & Star; white frosted punch bowl & cups; covered caked stands & plates; pitchers (small & large); oatmeal glassware; old brown plates; crocks; tall vases; 2 old large pressure cookers; old picture frames; brass coal bucket; walking cane; lots of tea pots; blue crock pitcher; matador & bull; cast iron dog irons; 5 cast iron skillets; 2 "Lodge" cast iron skillets; 3 cast iron cornbread pans; 2 cast iron muffin pans; old bowls; Liberty jar; old metal wagon seats; wooden tables; picture frames; old well pump; old oak table; vintage bed, dresser, & chest of drawers; old red metal cooler; and many other items.

PERSONAL PROPERTY: (2) 3-pc. living room suits; framed pictures; large mirror; oak 3-corner entertainment center; Sanyo 42" TV; GE washer & dryer; small table; GE refrigerator; Jenn-Air stove; dining table & 6 chairs; Cedar wardrobe; GE stove; maple drop-leaf coffee table & 2 end tables; several old wood chairs; living room couch & chair; several recliners; couch w/wooden arms; 2 wood chairs; King stove; 4-pc. white bedroom suit; 5-pc. king maple bedroom suit; 4-pc. maple bedroom suit; all kinds of chairs; Sharp microwave; several odd beds; many sets of glasses (various sizes); 12 place setting Crown Victoria "Lovelace" china; several sets of stemmed glassware; 8 place setting Stonecraft dishes; 6-pc. wrought iron patio set; glider; 6-pc. cast iron patio set; black patio set; wooden patio rocker; lots of bowls, pots & pans; lemon juicers; mixing bowls; concrete flower pots; Iris print; brass wall sconces; step stool; ironing board; lots of vases; statues; bird bath; stool; patio table & chairs; glass-top table; Hearthstone set of dishes; Hearthside set of dishes; lots of Home Interior; lots of bedding; lamp globes; (5) footed cake stands; wheel chair; walkers; potty chair; lots of plasticware; sets of Corelle dishes; silverware; kitchen utensils; lots of Tupperware; glass pie plates; Corning ware; Pyrex bake ware; pressure cooker; crock pots; electric skillets; Cooker fryer; canister set; pitcher & bowl; lots of candle holders; stoneware; old clocks; 2 freezers; gas heater; jars; picture frames; chains; garden tools; Kirby vacuum; odd chairs; chest; baskets; wood tables; and many other items.



ORDER OF SALE: We will sell personal property until 11:00 a.m. We will sell the farm at 11:00 starting with Tract #1 through Tract #4. We will then offer any or all tracts together with the best sale adopted. We will sell car after the farm sale, then we will sell the remainder of the personal property.

TERMS OF SALE: REAL ESTATE – There will be a 15% non-refundable down payment required on the day of the sale with the balance due on or before 60 days. Full possession will be given with the deed. This property is selling "As Is, Where Is" both surface and sub-surface. The property will be selling by a new survey. **A 5% buyer's premium will be added to the final bid on Real Estate to establish the contract price. PERSONAL PROPERTY** – Cash or approved check on the day of the sale with proper ID. **Buyers must register with a driver's license to bid on the merchandise.** All items will be selling "As Is" with no warranties expressed or implied and all bidders should satisfy themselves as to the description and quality of each item. There will be a 6% Kentucky sales tax collected on all purchases unless buyer presents a Kentucky resale certificate. **No buyer's premium on personal property.**

AGENT'S NOTES: Proffitt Real Estate Agency, Inc is honored to have been chosen to conduct this auction which includes a lifetime collection of Fay and Willodean Gerald's. This auction features a nice bedford stone home and 37.73 acres. We will also be selling a very nice car with low mileage, lots of antiques, collectibles, and personal property. There is something for everyone at this auction so come early and be prepared to stay late. Mark your calendars and be with us on Saturday, June 2 at 9:00 a.m. for another fun day at our auction.

FAY AND WILLODEAN GERALDS ESTATE – OWNERS

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