



# Cheeps & Chirps

..... Points for Poultry Profitability

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## 2019 KPF SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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**Lauryn Phillips** is majoring in Special Education at Eastern Kentucky University. Her family hails from Pine Knot, and her mother Melissa works for Cobb-Vantress in Strawberry Hill. Lauryn was extremely involved in basketball throughout her high school career. She has led mentoring programs in her high school and is still involved in her local community and church. Her ultimate goal is to teach students with special needs and give back to her local community by coaching basketball.



**Nicholas McKenney** is a recipient of our KPF employee scholarship. Nick's mother Tracey, works for Perdue Farms. Nick attends Brescia University in Owensboro where he is majoring in business management. Nicholas is planning to pursue law and plans to return home to Hartford to help local farmers and businesses in his community. Nick understands the importance of the poultry industry, not just for his family but for his community as a whole.



**Emily Fischels'** family grows for Tyson Robards in Hanson, Kentucky. Emily is currently a sophomore at Murray State University, in Murray, Kentucky majoring in pre-veterinarian medicine. Emily is highly active at Murray State. She is currently on the university equestrian team, competing across the nation and serves on the Pre-vet club and the Murray State Horseman's Association. Emily has a passion for agriculture, science, and medicine and wants to use her science skills to aid and enhance the field. After completion of her DVM, she would like to work in under privileged communities, offering low cost spay and neuter clinics. With her fluency and minor in Spanish, she will be able to reach so many pet owners and farmers with her work.



**Travis Pendency** hails from Glasgow, Kentucky and is currently a freshman at

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## KPF 2019 SCHOLARSHIPS (*continued*)

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Eastern Kentucky University majoring in cybersecurity and digital forensics. Travis' family farms for Tyson—Albany. His passion for technology truly came from a tragic lightning storm that knocked out the power to three of their poultry barns and thus prevented the alarm system from alerting his

dad. The next day was devastating as they saw the destruction. Travis saw right then and there that technology was the key to helping protect the farmer from tragedies.

NOTE: Each photo has Commissioner Ryan Quarles (left) and Dan Finnegan (right). Dan is chair of the KPF scholarship committee.

## 2019 Family Farm Environmental Excellence Awards



### ANDERSON POULTRY LLC

Rob and Christy Anderson operate Anderson Poultry, a diversified farm located in Carlisle county. The farming operation currently includes 2,500 acres of row crops, 30 acres of tobacco, 100 acres of hemp, and six contract chicken barns with Pilgrim's Pride. The sizing of their cropping operation allows the Andersons to utilize 100% of their litter on their operation. They are unique in that they apply the litter directly from the poultry barns. The Andersons firmly believe that poultry litter has improved the physical and biological fertility of their soils.

The Andersons utilize vegetative cover and grass waterways to move surface water across their farm without soil erosion and runoff. They make a conscious effort to leave brush piles to provide nesting and productive cover for birds and wildlife. They are always willing to host FFA groups and students from local agriculture classes.



### MORRISON POULTRY LLC

Morrison Poultry is located in Wingo, Kentucky. The Morrisons have six broiler barns and produce birds for Tyson—Obion County. Tim and Deena Morrison are deeply concerned about their environmental footprint and have taken steps to reduce their effect on the environment. The farm produces more litter than can be used on their tillable acres. They have arrangements with local farmers to take the litter in exchange for replacement rice hulls. On the acreage, they do utilize litter on, they test soil every two years and match the nutrients to the needs of their corn and soybean rotation.

In 2016, solar panels were installed on the farm to further reduce their environmental footprint. Over the last three years they have produced nearly 250,000 KwHs. Along with the solar panels the Morrison also upgraded the computer controls in all six houses. They feel this gives them greater control of the house environment, which allows them to grow a larger chicken more efficiently with less impact on the environment.

The Morrisons are well on the way of their stated goal of making sure that their farm is sustainable for future generations.

## 2019 Family Farm Environmental Excellence Awards



### D&D FARMS

D&D Farms is located in Horse Branch, Kentucky and consists of cattle operations as well as broiler production for Perdue. D&D is owned and operated by Nathan and Lakayah Daughtery, with the hopes that their two children want to carry on the tradition when the time comes. The Daughtery's manage their operations with sustainability and profitability as indicators of success.

They have used the litter from their six broiler houses to renovate the neglected pastures on their farm. The proper application of poultry litter has improved the fertility and pH of the pastures and resulted in improved quality of grass for the cattle.

The Daughtery's have improved their operations by having a nutrient management plan and by implementing the plan through facility improvements and rotational grazing. They have controlled runoff, soil erosion, and have protected their streams and riparian areas on their farm. The riparian areas provide habitat for the diverse wildlife on the farm.

To quote the Daughtery's, "If we can leave the land better than when we received it, and teach our children to do the same, we can and will produce poultry and cattle in a way that is responsible, regenerative and in the end profitable." D&D Farms strives to meet the goals of Happy Family, Health Land and profitable business.

## 2019 FRIEND OF KENTUCKY POULTRY



Senator Paul Hornback hails from Shelby County, Kentucky. He was elected to the Kentucky Senate in 2010, representing the 20th District. When not running the halls of Frankfort, you can find him between the rows on his farm.

He is the chairman of the Agriculture Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Licensing, Occupations and

Administrative Regulations Committee. He also serves as a member on the Tobacco Settlement Agreement Fund Oversight Committee; the Natural Resources and Energy Committee; the Transportation Committee; and the Government Contract Review Committee.

Senator Hornback is a member of the Kentucky Bankers Association, the Shelby County Chamber of Commerce, and Farm Bureau. Senator Hornback is a graduate of Shelby County High School and is a farmer. The Senator has a very diverse farming operation that includes 3,000 acres of corn, soybeans, and tobacco. He and his wife, Pat, reside in Shelbyville. He is the father of two daughters, Stephanie and Amanda.

Senator Hornback has worked on and supported several bills that has helped the growth of Kentucky's poultry industry. The latest bill he sponsored allowed poultry producers to have the same exemptions as other commodities raised in Kentucky.



Senator Paul Hornback (left) and Dan Flannagan

## 2019 KY Poultry Federation Hall of Fame Inductee Dr. Robert Williams



Dr. Robert Williams was born on November 7, 1956 in Richmond, VA. He was the son of two chemists, so it is not surprising that while he was in high school he developed an interest in science as a career. His love of animals sealed the deal.

His family lived in South Carolina at the time and his parents gave him the choice of Clemson or Georgia for his education. The caveat was that he would have to cover any out of state costs if he chose the University of Georgia.

He fell in love with Georgia and was able to establish residency in a year. He is a bulldog through and through.

During his undergraduate years at UGA, his passion for He met his future wife Chery in the Poultry Disease class taught by world renowned Drs. Page and Davis. Chery and Dr. Williams met in that class and were married within nine months.

After completing his DVM, he went to work for Spring Valley Farms in Oxford, Alabama as their poultry health director. After a downturn in the industry, he went on to work for the state diagnostic lab in Alabama and got to teach poultry classes at a junior college. I

n April of 1989, the offer came to leave the classroom and lab and get back into industry. Keystone foods in Gadsden, Alabama was a new cook plant that

allowed his family to stay rooted in Alabama, but gave him his footing back into the industry. He grew his team to record sales, production, and marketing. With the merger of Doug Cagle and Keystone in Camilla, Georgia he became the VP of Live production and purchasing and later VP of live production and processing. The success of Camilla led to their expansion into Kentucky.

In 1993, he became board certified as a poultry veterinarian and worked closely with the association of avian pathologists as the only industry person on the board. He got to work with Dr. Temple Grandin and established the first ever poultry welfare audits in the industry.

In the late 1990's, the plant in Albany, Kentucky was processing chickens, but was not fully self-sufficient till early 2001. As the General Manager in 2004, Dr. Williams spent time in both Franklin and Albany assessing finances, costs, foods safety, social accountability and sustainability. His first day on the job was like typical Kentucky weather in April, it dropped two inches of snow in Albany and created an interesting first day. Growing the workforce and committing to helping build the community was one of his top priority's.

Drs. Williams was instrumental in working with local officials and businesses to improve not only the facility, but the community that he had

## 2019 KY Poultry Federation Hall of Fame Inductee ... continued

became a part of. It took over ten years, but with due diligence he was able to get natural gas into Clinton County which allowed for huge cost saving benefits for the company and the citizens of Albany.

The ten years he spent working as the general manager in Albany were some of the best years of his life. Working with the Poultry Federation to educate and advance poultry in the Commonwealth are some of the highlights of his career. In 2015, after 26½ years with Keystone, he retired back to his south Alabama home. He and Chery have 3 children and 7 grandchildren.



## Commissioner Ryan Quarles helps present KPF awards



Ryan Quarles was elected Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture in 2015. Under his leadership, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) started several new programs, including initiatives to combat hunger and connect Kentucky farmers to new markets.

Ryan grew up on his family's farm in Scott County, coming from a family that has lived in central Kentucky for over 200 years. At the age of 34, Commissioner Quarles is the youngest statewide elected official in the country.

## Photos from the Kentucky Poultry Festival





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## 2020 KPF Membership Drive

The 2020 Kentucky Poultry Federation membership drive is underway. The KENTUCKY Poultry Federation is YOUR voice in Kentucky. The KPF needs YOUR support and commitment to this organization as we enter this new year.

Membership benefits include:

- \* Cheeps and Chirps—a KPF newsletter
- \* A lobbyist in Frankfort—A portion of your membership dues provide aggressive involvement in legislative action in regards to the security of the industry
- \* Subscription to the Poultry Times and The Farmer's Pride, as well as The Sunnyside, a KPF newsletter
- \* Environmental Awards—Each year up to three producers are awarded the Kentucky Family Farm Environmental Excellence Award
- \* Scholarship Fund –Each year four students receive \$2000 scholarships each

<https://www.kypoultry.org/membership/2020MembershipFlyer.pdf>

## What do you want to read about?

We want to know what you want to read about.  
Please e-mail topics of interest to [Jacquie.jacob@uky.edu](mailto:Jacquie.jacob@uky.edu)

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