



Greenwing
hunt
Page 12

Outdoorsman Chad Miles named new host of popular “Kentucky Afield” television show

A 41-year-old Mount Washington native is the new host of the Emmy Award-winning “Kentucky Afield” television show, a production of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.

Chad Miles, who grew up pan fishing the Salt River and hunting rabbits and squirrels, will become the seventh host of the nation’s longest continuously-running outdoor television show. He succeeds Tim Farmer, who retired in December after hosting the popular show for the past 20 years.

Miles, the oldest of Terry and Betty Miles’ four children, has a lengthy and extensive background in the outdoors.

“Growing up, my cousin and I kept a johnboat on the river all the time – and we were in that boat every day that river wasn’t dangerous,” he said. “We’d run limb lines ‘til dark, then go gig frogs ‘til light, and then run limb lines some more. People still do those things, and those are some things I want to show.”



“To say that I’m excited to get started would be putting it mildly,” he said. “I have always enjoyed seeing kids experience the outdoors. I want to see how our hunters and anglers enjoy the outdoors, and I want to bring their adventures into our homes each week.”

Nowadays, Miles is an avid smallmouth bass angler and passionate bow hunter as well.

Miles comes to the show after

serving as executive director of the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the past 8½ years. He steps into his new role as “Kentucky Afield” host for the first time April 2. “Kentucky Afield” is broadcast twice each weekend on Kentucky Educational Television (KET).

The show’s new host recognizes the uniqueness of becoming the face of the program that began its run on Louisville’s WAVE TV in 1953. Only “Meet the Press” and “The Today Show” are older.

Miles graduated from Bullitt East High School. In 1999, he earned a business administration degree in management and marketing from Eastern Kentucky University. His professional experience includes two years as regional director in marketing for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, senior marketing manager for National Tobacco Company, and manager of category development at Brown and Williamson Tobacco Corp.

“The ‘Kentucky Afield’ show is in its sixth decade because it’s not like other outdoor programs out there today, where the focus is on taking trophy fish and trophy big game,” said Miles. “Our show appeals to the average hunter and angler. It also appeals to those who simply enjoy

[See “Host,” page 2](#)

INSIDE:



6 New ramp



7 New FINs lake



8 Salato prep

KCOA funds camp scholarships



Commissioner **Gregory Johnson** accepted a \$13,465 contribution from Kentucky Conservation Officers Association (KCOA) officers **Steve Combs**, **Rodney Milburn** and **B.J. McCoy** at the December meeting of the Kentucky Fish

and Wildlife Commission to be used for conservation camp scholarships.

The generous donation from the Kentucky Conservation Officers Association provides the opportunity for many deserving Kentucky school children to attend conservation camp.

The officers association has a long standing tradition of helping kids attend the camps along with other youth events throughout the year.

“Host,” continued

Kentucky’s beautiful landscape, and those who relish the exceptional and rewarding experiences of our outdoors.”

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Gregory Johnson said the department is thrilled to begin the next chapter in the storied history of Kentucky’s top-rated outdoor TV show. “I am excited for Chad as he joins a select and elite group who’ve headlined this legendary show through six decades,” Johnson said. “Chad now prepares to bring the wonders of Kentucky’s fish and wildlife into yet another generation’s homes.”

“Kentucky Afield” Executive Producer Scott Moore believes Kentuckians will embrace Miles and call him a friend as he represents the sportsmen and sports-women of Kentucky.

“Our show captures the heart, traditions and passion of the ordinary sportsmen, and that’s who Chad Miles is,” Moore said. “Our program is founded upon the opportunities for all Kentuckians, so whether you are a bank fisherman, a trapper, small game hunter or stream wader, you’ll find ‘Kentucky Afield’ the right recipe. And without a doubt I can say that the tradition continues with our new host, Chad Miles.”

“Even in an agency full of dedicated fishermen, Chad is the most passionate angler I’ve ever met,” said I&E Division Director Tim Slone. “It’s a defining trait. We’re excited.”

gauge was a really easy gun to use. I met so many new kids that are from all over Kentucky. Everyone was so nice to us. The kids, parents, staff, everyone – they were amazing! Red was a great instructor and Bill was a great host!

They were all so funny! Red showed me some duck calls that I didn’t know existed (I didn’t know much). I even won the duck call contest! All the gifts were amazing! I’d never thought of this opportunity. THANK YOU!”

WE GET MAIL

Letters to the Commissioner’s Office

Wildlife Division Biologist **Joe Lacefield** recently provided a presentation for a “Career Day” at the Jessamine Career and Technology Center. There were approximately 20 students who attended. Joe received the following note from their teacher.

“Thank you for speaking to the vet tech assistant class. You were so influential, three of the five boys in the class want to become wildlife biologists. I really appreciate your participation in the program.”

The following letter came from Mr. Keith Nelson, Paducah. He wrote, “I’m a 53 year old hunter, who has been hunting since I was a 9 year old. I’ve enjoyed outdoor activities over the years as much as I have time for, so when I write to tell you that I’m impressed with your wildlife staff and officers at Ballard and Boatwright WMAs, you better believe me.

The effort made to ready the pits and blinds after a major flooding just so the last week of the season can be enjoyed is well impressive. They went out in 20-30 degree weather, pumped out water, removed chunks of ice, then cut brush so we could re-brush the blind if we so chose to.

Not every hunter is as grateful as I am, but I hope that some at least will show some appreciation.”

The following note came from Trinty R. after participating in a Greenwing Adventure. “Thank you so much! This was my first ever hunting trip and I loved it! Definitely got the “Duck Fever” after this. Not to mention, I got my first kill.

I was so glad that my dad was there with me (even though I felt upset for the kids whose parents didn’t go). My dad helped me with loading my gun. The 20

Retirements

Larry Williamson, Game Management Foreman at Miller Welch-Central Kentucky WMA, retired January 31, 2016.

Larry began working for the KDFWR after retiring from IBM in Lexington. He started work on November 24, 1996 as a Wildlife Technician at MW-CKWMA and was then promoted to Game Management Foreman in 2010. He spent his entire career working with many sportsmen, skeet and trap shooting clubs, beagle clubs, and bird dog organizations that utilized MW-Central WMA for events.

Larry continues to be active as the President of the Central Kentucky Gun Club that hosts trap shoots on a regular basis at MW-CKWMA. Larry is looking forward to spending a lot of time fishing for crappie at Lake Cumberland and throughout Florida.

A 28 year employee for the department decided to hang up his boots on February 1st.

Richard Mauro started his career



Above: Wildlife Division Director Steve Beam with Larry Williamson. Right: Rick Mauro and Wildlife Division Assistant Director Dan Figert.



conducting grouse research on LBL tracking released grouse. He soon was hired as a district biologist in the northeast region which transitioned into a public lands biologist. Rick was the only public lands biologist in the region for several years. He supervised, influenced or worked on every WMA in the region.

Rick took pride in his work and was always willing to assist the public. He

annually banded a multitude of doves along with many other species. He was a respected biologist that worked with many agencies and partners.

He will be missed but I am sure he will enjoy working on his farm in Carter County. If you are out fishing or hunting in the northeast there is a good chance you might run into Rick as he plans to do more of those activities!

New Hires

Wildlife Biologist John Hast has been selected as the Department's new Bear/Furbearer Program Coordinator. His appointment was effective January 16.

John graduated in 2006 from Centre College and spent the next two years working as a wildlife technician in the big game and bear programs. Following his stint as a technician, he began working toward a Master's degree at the University of Kentucky Department of Forestry by studying Kentucky black bears.

After graduating with his Master's in the spring of 2010, he accepted a position as a Ph.D. student in the UK Animal Science Department studying the ecology of Kentucky's elk herd.

While still working to finish his doctoral degree, John accepted a position as an elk

biologist in the Department's deer and elk program in January of 2015 to oversee the newly formed elk hunting voucher program.

John enjoys duck hunting, fly fishing for trout, and managing his family farm in western Kentucky.

Fisheries Division welcomes **Kayla Gerber** as the new Fisheries Biologist II in the Southwestern Fisheries District. Kayla hails from southeast Minnesota, obtained a BS degree from Winona State University and an MS degree from Kansas State University.

Her project with the KS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit assessed seasonal blue catfish distribution in Milford Reservoir, Kansas, using acoustic telemetry tags.

Following completion of her Master's

degree, she worked as a research technician for the co-op unit working on a YOY bass recruitment/stocking project in Hillsdale Reservoir, Kansas, a fish community study along the length of the Smokey Hill River, Kansas, and a study on striped bass distribution around confluences in Plum Island Estuary, Massachusetts, using acoustic telemetry.

The Salato Center and I & E Division welcomes **Emily Hogue** back as a Conservation Educator IV, sharing the agency's mission and message of wildlife conservation with the center's 50,000-plus annual visitors.

Emily will be assisting with day-to-day operations, working with interims and

See "Hires," page 4



Fisheries' Christmas tree collection effort tops 3,200

Collecting and hauling Christmas trees is an annual rite of passage for district fisheries staff.

Division staff have collected well over 3,200 Christmas trees this season from drop off locations and tree vendors. The trees will be deposited in lakes and reservoirs for fish habitat throughout the state.

The best part is the GPS locations of many of these brush piles will be uploaded to the Department website – so before your next fishing trip check the Fish Attractors webpage to find a new honey hole at your favorite lake!



“Hires,” continued

volunteers, leading programs, planning special events and developing exhibits among numerous other duties.

The center reopens March 1.

Matt Catron was recently hired as a Private Lands Wildlife Biologist in the Southeast Region. Matt graduated in 2013 from Eastern Kentucky University with his Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Management. In 2014, Matt was hired as a seasonal wildlife technician in the Bluegrass Region working on multiple WMAs.

Last year Matt was hired as a Black Bear Technician within the Southeast Region, where he worked within a six county area.

In his spare time Matt enjoys spending time with his wife Amber and their two year old son Colton, and is looking forward to teaching his son about the outdoors.

Matt's interests include hunting, fishing, 4-wheeling, and helping out on his family's farm in Wayne County.

Effective January 16 **Eric McGinnis** was promoted to the Grants Branch Manager position within the Administrative

Services Division. Eric came to Fish and Wildlife October 16, 2010 from Wausau Paper in Harrodsburg. Eric has over five years' experience with state government, serving all of them with the Department in our grants branch.

His in-depth knowledge and experience with Federal Grants will be a tremendous asset to our customers and will serve him well in his new job duties.

Join us in congratulating him not only on his promotion but also becoming a new father. He and his wife Kim welcomed their daughter Charlie to the family in January.



NEW SERGEANTS

Fourteen conservation officers recently were promoted in rank to sergeant. They were formally recognized and received their commissions and rank insignia during a ceremony at Headquarters this month. From left are sergeants Scott Horn and Chris Fossitt from the Fifth District, Rob Howard (8th), Chris King (9th), Tracy Bell (2nd), Scott Barrow (1st), Rodney Milburn (3rd), Joshua Avery (4th), Homer Pigman (7th), Dustin Mullins (2nd), Travis Neal (9th), Eric Thomas (7th), Rufus Cravens (6th), and William Earlywine (8th). The actions were effective February 1.

Yatesville Lake habitat reef

A collaborative effort between the Wildlife Division and Fisheries has resulted in better habitat for Yatesville Lake.

This was all made possible thanks to a donation of left over Christmas trees from Tractor Supply. Their donation allowed staff to build about 200 yards of reef habitat.

These structures will create increased algae and plankton growth needed for small fish and provide needed cover for a multitude of fish species.

This was a great team effort that will benefit anglers, fish and other wildlife. An eagle has been spotted regularly in this area fishing when the water is at summer pool.



Assisting with the Christmas tree habitat are Harley Weaver, Dennis Boggs, Dave Ross, Les Carter, Mark Harless and Jason Russell.



Kentucky Dam Village boat ramp completed ahead of schedule

Engineering Division has completed the five-lane boat launch ramp at Kentucky Dam Village ahead of its March 1 goal.

The new ramp, done in partnership with the Department of Parks, is the largest push-in ramp ever attempted in the Commonwealth. They established the completion goal in order to serve a large fishing tournament scheduled for early March.

Engineering Division Acting Director **David Bruce** said time was getting short, so **Greg Logan and crew** finished pushing the balance of the ramp into the water and completed all concrete work above the water line in less than three days.

The crew worked from daybreak until after dark to ensure the ramp was completed on schedule. The five-lane ramp and courtesy dock provides a great access point to one of Kentucky's premier waterbodies.

Kentucky Fish and

Wildlife Engineering Division has constructed hundreds of boat launch ramps through the years, but the new ramp is an impressive build indeed. It is the largest slab they've attempted to push into place.

Moving it stretched the abilities of five bulldozers pushing together just to move the first ramp segment into place.

This partnership with Parks Department benefits Parks customers and provides more access to Kentucky anglers, waterfowl

hunters, and recreational boaters.

"I commend the Lakes and Streams branch on their hard work and dedication to completing this and all tasks they are assigned," said Bruce. "Without their hard work, access to many of the water resources of Kentucky would not be available."

The launch ramp project is funded primarily by Parks. Fish and Wildlife supplied the experience and technical expertise, and some federal Sport Restoration Funds.



Fish being stocked at new FINs lake at Kentucky Horse Park

Rolex Lake at the Kentucky Horse Park is the newest addition to the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources' Fishing in Neighborhoods (FINs) program.

Kentucky has 40 specially-stocked FINs lakes open to the public in 25 counties to provide more fishing opportunities near major population centers. The aim of the program is to create quality fishing opportunities near cities of all sizes throughout the state. Rolex is a 5.6-acre lake located near Interstate 75 in Fayette County.

Dane Balsman, coordinator of the FINs program for the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, said anglers won't have long to wait. "We will stock 1,250 trout ranging from 9 to 11 inches next week in the lake, weather permitting," he said.

The Fisheries Division will also stock 1,100 catfish per month in March, April, May and August in the lake. "The catfish are keeper-sized and average about a



FINs Coordinator Dane Balsman holds a large catfish for stocking in one of the department's 40 FINs lakes. Fisheries Transportation Foreman Mark "Slick" Roberts (right) makes sure fish arrive as promised.

valid Kentucky trout permit in addition to their valid Kentucky fishing license. Permits and licenses are available where sporting goods are sold, or may be purchased online at fw.ky.gov.

Anglers will not be charged admission to the

park unless they wish to visit the attractions. The Kentucky Horse Park does charge a \$5 per vehicle parking fee from March 15 through Nov. 1. Parking is free outside of those dates except for special events.

For more information about the FINs lakes program, consult the 2016 Kentucky Sport Fishing and Boating Guide, available free wherever fishing licenses are sold. Maps and directions to all FINs lakes are available online at fw.ky.gov.

pound each," Balsman said.

Fisheries personnel will add 2,500 trout to the lake in November.

FINs lakes have special regulations due to the fishing pressure on them. Anglers may keep up to five trout, four catfish and 15 sunfish a day. FINs lakes anglers may also keep one largemouth bass as long as it exceeds 15 inches. Unless exempt, anglers must have a valid fishing license to fish in a FINs lake.

Those who keep trout must have a

USFS awards FILO for Red River Gorge project

At the December meeting of the Fish and Wildlife Commission, Fisheries Division assistant director **Mike Hardin** announced an award received from the U.S. Forest Service for a FILO project on East Fork Indian Creek, Menifee County, in the Red River Gorge completed by the Department in partnership with the Daniel Boone National Forest.

The project restored stream habitat and removed some dysfunctional low water crossings that were creating obstruc-

tions to flow and low water movement of fish.

The project was submitted by the Daniel Boone National Forest in a Regional Forest Award competition in the Restored and Resilient Landscapes category. The project won.

This project also recently won a state compe-



tion of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and went on to compete on the national ACEC competition in Washington, D.C.

At this national level it won a National Recognition Award, but did not take the more prestigious Honor or Grand Award, which usually go to something huge like a New Orleans levee or a large bridge, etc.



Above: Education Staff Supervisor Emily Hogue, Salato Manager Brent McCarty and Conservation Educator Geoff Roberts with Salato birds of prey and a new Toyota truck donated to the center by Toyota. Right: Salato's resident black bear gets a health checkup from Department wildlife veterinarian Iga Stasiak.

Salato Center staff prepares for March 1 reopening

By Lyndsey Williams

Melting snow drips off tree branches and a subtle warmth to the air means spring approaches. To the staff at the Salato Wildlife Education Center spring means their seasonal reopening. Salato will reopen its door to the public March 1, and offer exciting ways to explore and learn about the wildlife of Kentucky.

Before the doors open to the public the staff are hard at work getting ready

for the upcoming season. Salato manager, **Brent McCarty**, makes sure everything runs smoothly and communicates with his team. Papers are organized, the vacuum roars, and the staff dash around checking on animals.

"All the staff, both education staff and animal care staff, have worked together as a team getting things done that we just can't do while visitors are here," said McCarty. "I&E staff from other branches

have pitched in to help as well."

One of the tasks before reopening involves deep cleaning. The carpets are shampooed and tiles are scrubbed. Any doors or windows that need repaired or cleaned are taken care of. And the dust buster is never far from reach. It's not a glamorous task, but a very necessary one.

Besides maintenance to the building

[See "Reopening," page 9](#)



Above: The new, young bobcat continues its gradual acclimation to the older adult resident male. Right: New animal care staff Justin Hamilton and Brandon Sawyers wash windows to help ready Salato for its March 1 reopening.

Kentucky NASP setting new participation, scoring records

Kentucky's National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) is experiencing a record-breaking year.

More NASP archers competed in more events than ever before. 13,620 individuals participated in at least one NASP event.

Registration in the 14 NASP regional events grew by 7.5 percent over the previous year as 11,944 archers registered to compete. A record 4,231 archers competed in the 2015 Kentucky State NASP Tournament.

Trigg County High School set a new team state scoring record at 3465, its top 12 archers firing an average of 288.75 each. That's an average of less than 12 points shy of perfect. Phenomenal.

Three high schoolers scored perfect rounds – 300 points. Clay Stevens of Trigg County fired his perfect round in the Kentucky High School Athletics Association State Tournament. Madison Southern High School's Bradly Long scored perfect in the Feed the Future: Food Drive event, and East Carter High's Harley Marshall



Above: The Individual State Tournament 2015. Left: KY Male Overall Champ 2015 Dustin Johnson and KY Female Overall Champ 2015 Elizabeth Wagoner.

over the past three years," he said. "Not only is the number of participants growing, the scores are rising too.

"We were 10 years into this

was perfect in the Raceland-Worthington State Qualifier.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's State Archery Coordinator **Pat O'Connell** said he continues to be amazed by NASP's growth. "Our regional tournaments are growing at a rate of 1000 archers per year

program before the first perfect 300 was shot in an official NASP event. We have had three this year in Kentucky alone. The dedication of these young archers and their coaches amazes me. The only thing better than the talent of these student archers is their character."

"Reopening," continued

the animals need to be taken care of and trained as well. The Salato staff, including educators, **Emily Hogue** and **Geoff Roberts** and five animal care staff, **Brad Burge**, **Bart Riddle**, **Dane Cassady**, **Justin Hamilton**, and **Brandon Sawyers**, all help the animals stay healthy and safe during the winter months and during the open season.

Specific tasks include training raptors and the groundhog for various Salato

educational programs. Even larger outdoor animals need training for easier care and handling. Gradual introduction of the Center's young female bobcat into the large bobcat enclosure and to its resident adult male continues. McCarty says the youngster has a high energy level that can sometimes cause the older male to become annoyed with her.

Staff members use positive reinforcement to lower the risk of harming themselves or the animals.

The Salato Center black bear needed

a routine checkup and teeth cleaning from Department Veterinarian **Iga Stasiak**. Staff training helped ensure a flawless event when the Center's veterinarian staff easily sedated the bear without endangering anyone.

With help from staff and volunteers, the Salato Wildlife Education Center expects a great season and is excited to kick things off with a four-mile trail run Mar. 26.

Come out, shake off the remnants of winter, and enjoy various animal exhibits.



Rabbit cover in the deep snow

After 20 inches of snow blanketed Paintsville Lake WMA in January, it was obvious that rabbits needed better cover along the field edges.

Since the big snow event, staff have been cutting trees steadily and building brush piles between fields.

They felled trees with the aid of

chainsaws and the Bobcat skid steer machine with the tree shear attachment.

Now that some treetops are lying on the ground, deer have been browsing the buds for food.

The habitat improvement looks great from a rabbits-eye-view.



MAKING THE BOONE & CROCKETT BOOK

Wildlife Biologist Dan Crank stayed busy the past few weeks. Crank measured five bears big enough for the Boone and Crockett Club record book – including this bruiser taken last fall by Harlan County resident Jim McKenzie. It scored 20 7/16. Crank also put the tape to a giant non-typical buck taken in Lee County by Randy Fox of St. Helens. The record book buck scored 222 3/8.



Salato volunteers recognized at awards banquet

Commissioner **Gregory Johnson** joined Salato Wildlife staff and volunteers last weekend and presented awards at the 2015 Annual Salato Wildlife Center Volunteer Awards Banquet. Our volunteers logged over 3,600 hours in 2015 and are directly responsible for the success of the Center and high levels of customer satisfaction. Many thanks!

A special recognition award spotlighted Toyota and its longstanding tradition of sending more than 100 volunteers to help the Center on National Public Lands Day. Its effort is so special in fact that Salato staff refer to it as “Toyota Day.”

This past year, Toyota also donated a new Toyota Tundra truck to Salato. Commissioner Johnson presented a framed photo series to Toyota during the banquet.

Another recognition award spotlighted the quick action last summer by Conservation Educator **Geoff Roberts** whose first responder CPR until Emergency Medical Personnel arrived helped save the life of a Salato patron. Geoff received the “Kiss of Life” award.

Another recognized the outstanding photography of Salato volunteer and former Administrative Services employee Mindy Rose. Mindy’s photos of Salato wildlife and staff also graced the pages of this newsletter over the past year and in this issue as well. She received the “Wait, Let me get my camera” award.

The group photo above includes staff and others who received awards. From left are Educator Geoff Roberts, Commis-



sioner Greg Johnson, Nancy Vance (Native Plant Award), Emily Bennett (Conservation Interpreter of the Year Award), Salato Manager **Brent McCarty**, Education Supervisor **Emily Hogue**, Janetta Kelly (Intern of the Year Award), volunteer Nick Laracunte, and Geoff Webb (Overall Volunteer of the Year Award). Outstanding Community Partners recognized were Strokes of Genius and Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Georgetown.



Campers showing off their ducks with their guides.

Currie outdoorsman campers enjoy an exciting Greenwing Hunt

Camp John Currie once again hosted its annual Greenwing event, one of the longest running youth waterfowl hunts in Kentucky.

The 29th annual event was held February 5 and 6 for 13 youth who had earned their Outdoorsman Patch at conservation camp in 2015.

The young hunters traveled to Currie from across the Commonwealth to brave the cold in hopes of taking their first waterfowl.

And they were successful, taking 16 ducks – 12 Mallards, two Greenwing Teal, a female Wood Duck, and a Northern Shoveler during the Saturday evening hunt.

Blinds were provided on private lands and guided by some of the best waterfowlers in the state.

The Ducks Unlimited Kentucky Greenwing Program donated ammo for the hunt, duck calls for each of the campers, and lots of great raffle prizes for the evening awards ceremony.

The event also featured calling lessons, a calling contest, and a how-to lesson on

wild game cooking.

Staff from several divisions assisted with the event, including **Thomas Young** from the Wildlife Division and **Tracy Bell**

from Law Enforcement.

Also, a big thanks to all the members of the Camp Currie and I&E staff who made the event a success!



Campers enjoying their time in the blind.



Campers showing off their ducks after a long day in the blinds.



KFB receives USFWS permit to take depredating black vultures

The Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) received a federal statewide depredation permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service allowing farmers to take black vultures that are attacking their on-farm livestock.

And Kentucky farmers responded heartily, filling an initial 350-bird allotment. That pressed the Bureau to seek and receive an additional 350-bird permit.

Now, with Farmers close to exhausting the second permit, KFB will be seeking to amend its permit again to allow farmers to continue their black vulture controls.

The pro-active KFB actions that allow farmers to protect their livestock and property from the aggressive depredation wrought by black vultures have captured national acclaim from the American Farm Bureau.

A story in the February 2016 edition of the "Kentucky Farm Bureau News" notes that the KFB is the only non-governmental entity approved by the USFWS to administer a black vulture depredation permit program.

KFB successfully petitioned the USFWS for two permits allowing up to 700 total takes. Those permits allow producers

experiencing depredation the opportunity to apply to KFB for a Livestock Protection Depredation Sub-Permit at no cost.

Joe Cain, KFB Commodity Division Director said Kentucky Farm Bureau has applied for additional takes and emphasized this process is important in protecting state livestock.

"The USFWS understands that importance and is working with KFB to address the problem," he said. "It is also important that producers follow the federal guidelines established by the USFWS as it relates to this process."

"Black vultures are becoming more common in Kentucky and vulture-related complaints have increased along with the population," said Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Avian Biologist **Kate Slankard**. "Black and turkey vultures will often show up at a birthing site because they are interested in the afterbirth. However, black vultures are more aggressive than turkey vultures and will, on occasion, attack a newborn calf."

The "Kentucky Farm Bureau News" story noted that applicants acquiring sub-permits must "agree to follow all rules and regulations required by USFWS in the original statewide depredation permit,

including: use of non-lethal measures to try and deter black vulture depredation, use of shotguns and steel shot in the lethal taking of depredating black vultures, the reporting of takes on a monthly basis, and the use of black vulture carcasses as effigies in areas where depredation is occurring. Black vulture lethal takes are approved only in areas where livestock is threatened and depredation is occurring."

More information can be accessed at the Fish and Wildlife website at fw.ky.gov/Wildlife/Pages/Problems-with-Vultures.aspx.



Kentucky House and Senate pass Resolutions recognizing retired Kentucky Afield host Tim Farmer

This is the text of identical resolutions offered in the Kentucky House of Representatives and the Kentucky Senate recognizing recently retired Kentucky Afield Television host Tim Farmer and his contributions to the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife and to sportsmen and sportswomen.

A RESOLUTION honoring Kentucky's native son Tim Farmer for his more than a quarter-century of inspirationally serving Kentucky's sportsmen and sportswomen, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, the Commonwealth of Kentucky, physically challenged persons everywhere, and for his proud military service to his country.

WHEREAS, Tim Farmer was born March 18, 1964, in Louisville, but soon moved with his parents to rural Kentucky and grew up in Mason and Carter Counties; and

WHEREAS, Tim Farmer proudly joined the United States Marine Corps in December 1983, but while returning home after graduating boot camp was gravely injured in a June 1984 motorcycle accident and permanently lost the use of his right arm; and

WHEREAS, Tim Farmer exercised exceptional personal drive and initiative through years of intensive therapy and overcame considerable physical challenges to become a Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources fisheries technician working to manage state streams and lakes; and

WHEREAS, Tim Farmer continued to overcome his injury, pushing to excel at such strenuous and accuracy-demanding outdoor pursuits as archery, hunting, and fishing by using his teeth to draw a bow and crank a fishing reel, and learning to master a shotgun or rifle one-handed; and

WHEREAS, Tim Farmer continued



Tim Farmer with Senators Jared Carpenter, Robin Webb and Chris Girdler

his personal ascent to become host of *Kentucky Afield Television*, the longest-running outdoor show in the country, where, through his infectious charm, magnetic charisma, and outdoor skills, he invited the riches of Kentucky's fish and wildlife into our homes and onto our TV screens each week for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Tim Farmer won five Emmy awards in the last 10 years as he invited each of us to join him in the field, on the water, and in the woods, and witness the 1999 final release of trapped and translocated white-tailed deer that became the nucleus of today's top-rated herd in the nation; multiple wild turkey releases that were the seeds of today's flock of a quarter-million birds; a restoration of free-ranging elk, extirpated from the Commonwealth more than a century and a half ago, that now represent a herd larger than all other herds east of the Rocky Mountains added together; and dozens of new trophy fisheries that attract tourists from multiple surrounding states; and

WHEREAS, Tim Farmer often meets, challenges, and motivates school-aged youth, wounded warriors, and hundreds of others attempting to overcome physical challenges each year; and

WHEREAS, Tim Farmer continues to host charity fund drives for Lexington's Cardinal Hill Hospital each year; and

WHEREAS, Tim Farmer recently retired after hosting *Kentucky Afield* for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Tim Farmer is now hosting two successful new television shows – *Tim Farmer's Country Kitchen*, a down-home country cooking show, and *Tim Farmer's Homemade Jam*, featuring down-home Kentucky musicians;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The Senate is proud to celebrate the inspiring career and personal contributions to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky's native son Tim Farmer, whose courage and commitment are a shining example to all.

Section 2. The Senate, taking from Tim's classic sign-off, encourages "all hunters and anglers entering private lands to first ask permission, and be sure to thank the landowner."

Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Senator Jared Carpenter for presentation.