

**Kentucky  
Agriculture  
Heritage Center  
Newsletter**

**Volume 3, Issue 2  
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**Kentucky Agriculture Heritage Center**



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**KAHC Mission  
Statement**

The Kentucky Agriculture Heritage Center is to create an environment for learning, reflecting on the past, showcasing the present, and fostering the advancement of Kentucky agriculture.

## Where the Wind Blows

The Kentucky Agriculture Heritage Center has taken another step toward breaking ground on the sustainable facility set to showcase Kentucky's agricultural past, present and future. In June, the Belcan design team behind the Center's sustainable focus began taking readings from the wind tower set to monitor the potential for wind power at the site.

"It is exciting to be at this stage in the development," said Mike Pillman, a Belcan Architect. "Green design is a whole new venture for Belcan. We work with a myriad of industries internationally, but it is exciting to be moving in this direction with a project here in Kentucky."

Belcan has been working with the KAHC Board for over two years on

the design and the development of this historic site. The first step in the process was to take the ideas of the Board and leaders in the agriculture community and bring them together in a conceptual design. As a leader in cutting edge technology, Belcan's design team saw the potential to incorporate green design as the core of the project.

"Agriculture at its core is about sustainability and living off the land," said Virginia Flanagan, the Executive Director of the KAHC. "Belcan tied these basic agriculture concepts to the focus of the design, and the Board saw the potential for creating a one of a kind sustainable Center to showcase Kentucky agriculture."

The Belcan team knew that in designing a facility of this



*Mike Pillman checks the wind tower data as it comes in.*

scale it wouldn't be possible for a single source of renewable energy to power the entire operation, so they decided to take the resources available at the site and pull them together.

Belcan is partnering with Dovetail, a firm based out of Athens, Ohio, to measure the available wind power at the site of the Center. A monitoring tower was installed by the Belcan and Dovetail teams in early spring, and over the last few months the monitors have been gathering wind, temperature, and other useful data from the site.

"What we are doing at this phase is show-

*Continued on page 4*

## *Executive Director* Virginia Flanagan

Summer is here and I hope all are doing well. It is exciting at the Kentucky Agriculture Heritage Center site.

As you have read in the cover story, the wind tower is up and giving us valuable data that will help to determine the size and type of wind power producing elements that we need to install. This data will also be valuable to you to help determine the possibilities of wind power for your homes and farms.

Another exciting event happened in June at the Kentucky Agriculture Heritage Center when two new members joined the Board of Directors.

Lois Mateus joins us as a native Mercer Countian. She is married to Louisville businessman, Tim Peters, and since 1994 they have operated Tallgrass Farm, an organic property near her childhood home. They raise grass-fed Black Angus cattle, Heritage breed turkeys, chickens, goats and garden extensively. Their Tallgrass Farm foundation regularly brings inter-city children to Mayo for a farm field-day experience.

In Louisville they are co-developers of the renewal of the East Market district including a public market for locally raised food products.

Ms. Mateus retired as senior vice president, executive director of corporate communications and services at Brown-Forman in 2008. She is a founder and past president of the Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft and is an honorary board member of the Kentuckians of New York and the Center for Inter-Faith Relations. She is a past board member of the Kentucky Humanities Council, The KET foundation, Leadership Kentucky and the Kentucky Historical Society.

Currently she serves on the Kentucky Proud Advisory council and co-chairs the Slow Food Bluegrass chapter and the Harrodsburg Mercer County Industrial authority. She is a member of the community Farm Alliance, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and a former State Historic Preservation Officer and a charter member of the Kentucky Oral History Commission. She is the recipient of the

University of Kentucky's Lifetime Achievement Award in Communications and Public Relations.

Merion Haskins also joined the board in June. Mr. Haskins is a native of Taylor County and attended Taylor County High School. He was co-captain for the Wildcats' basketball team his senior year at the University of Kentucky. One of the earliest African American recruits to UK, he played ball for UK from 1973 to 1977 for a total of 86 games, scoring 134 points.

Mr. Haskins has worked for Philip Morris International and Philip Morris USA for the past 30 years. Currently Mr. Haskins is working as a consultant for Philip Morris International. Prior to his current position, he was Sr. Manager of Leaf Procurement, and he has traveled extensively around the world procuring tobacco in all the major tobacco markets including Africa, Brazil, Argentina, Greece and Turkey.

Mr. Haskins and his wife, Gloria, live in Richmond, Virginia, and they have one daughter



*We are excited to welcome Lois Mateus and Merion Haskins to the KAHC Board!*

and two grandsons. The Haskins own a farm in Greensburg, Kentucky where he plans to spend several months of the year raising cattle.

The Kentucky Agriculture Heritage Center continues to advance, and that wouldn't be possible without the dedication and support of the individuals that volunteer their time to serve on the Board of Directors. They represent all facets of Kentucky agriculture and its interests; therefore all facets of Kentucky agriculture will be important in the Kentucky Agriculture Heritage Center.

I look forward to seeing you in the months ahead as we continue to showcase the progress of the Center at events. Have a great summer!

## KAC Agri-Energy visits the Center

The Kentucky Agricultural Council's Agri-Energy Committee held their June meeting at the KAHC headquarters in Harrodsburg.

KAHC Board members and Belcan engineers attended the meeting and were given an opportunity to share with the Committee the green design for the Center and the progress being made on renewable energy research at the site location.

The KAC recognizes that agriculture will play a major role in providing the energy needs for this country in the future, as demand for renewable fuel sources increases.

Kentucky not only has an opportunity to capitalize

on the new technology in biofuels and biomass production, but also with the innovative research that is going into the development of the Kentucky Ag Heritage Center.

Plus, the Center will be poised to be a place to showcase the role Kentucky can and will play in the renewable fuels industry.

The Bluegrass has extensive areas of productive farmland, which are ideal for dedicated production of biomass crops. In addition, Kentucky has an abundance of forest products to supply materials for energy utilization.

Research and development of energy capabili-



*Todd Griffin, Agri-Energy Chairman and other Board members welcomed a chance to learn about the KAHC green design*

ties, such as research on wind potential taking place at the Center's site, is needed to help position Kentucky as a long term leader in the field of renewable energy.

In working together with the KAC Agri-energy committee to educate Kentuckians on the green initiatives taking place at the Center's site, KAHC board members hope to play a role in Kentucky's renewable future.

## USDA Secretary Visits KY

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack stopped at Anderson Circle Farm in Harrodsburg in late May as a part of his Strengthening American Communities Rural Tour.

Speaking to over 300 Kentucky farmers and agriculture leaders, Vilsack shared trends he is seeing in US agriculture.

He emphasized the need to create new opportunities for our small entrepreneurs, and he also stressed the importance of biofuels to rural America.

"There are opportunities for rural America and for farmers to profit," said Vilsack. "We want to accelerate the implementation of Farm Bill



*Sec. Vilsack took a moment to meet with Ginny Flanagan to learn about the Center's green design and overall project focus.*

initiatives for renewable energy, empowering folks in rural counties to use a wide variety of projects to produce biofuels."

## KAHC Board

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Margaret Lane

Vice Chairperson  
Sam Moore

Secretary / Treasurer  
Dr. Oran Little

Alice Baesler

Dennis Cannon

Lewis Furnish

Mark Haney

Merion Haskins

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Hilda Legg

Loretta Lyons

George Martin

Lois Mateus

Jim Naive

Roger Quarles

Dawn Riley

Billy Ray Smith

David Sparrow

**SAVE THE DATE**

**KAHC Summer  
Board Meeting**

**August 19, 2009**

## Where the Wind cont...

ing everyone how to get data off the wind tower,” said Daniel Young of Dovetail when the team met in late June. “What this tower is doing is measuring wind speed at different heights and temperature and wind direction so that we can take that and take it back to the office so we can analyze it and see what kind of energy we have stored here on the site in the form of wind.”

The hope from Belcan and Dovetail is that there will be enough wind to warrant having large scale wind turbines on the site to provide a strong source of renewable energy. Wind turbines, along with solar power and

geothermal energy, are the trifecta the Belcan engineers are betting on to make the Center’s facilities not only self sustaining, but hopefully producing enough energy in the future to feed back into the grid.

“I think that is really great for the state of Kentucky to showcase green technology and the potential for renewable energy,” said Beth Hunter, Belcan’s Certified LEED architect. “I think when you can actually showcase green design and speak to the community, advertise for sustainability; it is a great way to reach out show you care about the environment.”

“We want people in

Data collected from the wind tower will be available on the KAHC website.



the state to realize that the Kentucky Agriculture Heritage Center is much more than just a building,” explained Flanagan. “What we are working towards is creating a sustainable center that incorporates the available resources of the land to power the operations, while also conserving the natural resources that are needed to make this a working farm.”

*Newsletter designed by Keeton Communications*

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**Visit us on the  
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[kyagheritage.org](http://kyagheritage.org)**

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