

WAVE NEWS: Ashbourne Farms: Going Green Lifestyles in Oldham County

Submitted by [Heather Smith](#)

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OLDHAM COUNTY, KY (WAVE) - Established in 1937 from a wedding gift of a shorthorn cow to the W. L. Lyons and Sally Brown, Ashbourne Farms quickly rose to international prominence as one of the Shorthorn Cattle Capitals in the world. Champion bulls such as Sni-A-Bar Randolph and Drummondreach Advocate were important stock animals on the farm. Ashbourne cattle auctions drew upon an international audience.

The farm was comprised on several thousand acres in Oldham County including a poultry and dairy operation, thoroughbreds and crosshatch donkey farm. Ashbourne Inn became another facet of the farm operation and became a destination for the tourists who travelled between Louisville and Cincinnati, using meat and poultry from the farm operations as a part of the Inn's menu. Today this third generation farm is operated by the Brown's grandson, Austin Musselman and his wife, Layla Musselman, who are striving to implement sustainable agriculture and wildlife conservation activities. The historic features of the auction barn and homestead have been restored and refurbished and heirloom livestock are being raised and farmed to provide sustenance, once again, in the local community.

The exhibit has several features including: history of Ashbourne Farm, highlights of some businesses, organizations, and schools participating in local sustainable activities. There is an active worm culture for children and families to touch and learn about composting. Local artist Ann Carter will unveil her painting of the Ashbourne Cattle barn as well as display other barn paintings in Oldham County. A small barn display that highlights Ashbourne Farm's cattle auctions and Sni-A-Bar Randolph are featured. Various videos are included including: Sally Brown: A Force of Nature courtesy of KET.

The exhibit opening is scheduled for Saturday, March 19, 2011 and is free and open to the public

For more information contact: The Oldham County History Center, 106 N. Second Ave., LaGrange, KY 40031, 502-222-0826, www.oldhamcountyhistoricalsociety.org

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