Unabridged It's the third wooden covered bridge in Kentucky to be restored by the legendary Arnold Graton. Work on the Beech Fork Covered Bridge, also known as the Mooresville Bridge, in Salt River Electric's co-op area of Washington County, wrapped up in late December. At 210 feet, it's the longest covered bridge in Kentucky. "We've done a pretty extensive restoration," Graton says. Indeed. The second-generation restorer and his wife, Meg Dansereau, have lived in the shadow of the 1865 structure for the last year and a half. The painstaking work involved shoring up the bridge with a temporary steel truss "to make a backbone to work from so that we can dismantle all the parts of the bridge and repair them and put them back into place." Graton explains. "Our team of people from the commonwealth were really good to us," Dansereau says, explaining that Kentucky policies allowed them flexibility as they discovered needed repairs. Kentucky claims 13 wooden covered bridges. Graton's next project is to repair the 183-year-old Dover Covered Bridge in Mason County, which was damaged by flooding in July. "I think there is a renaissance with these treasures," says Lori Ulrich of the Buffalo Trace Wooden Bridge Authority. Ulrich is marketing and public relations manager at Fleming-Mason Energy. "We want to encourage knowledge and awareness," says Ulrich. "It's just a very beautiful scene and something in touch with Americana," Story: Joe Arnold Photo: Brian Bohannon KENTUCKY LIVING - JANUARY 2018