



Advertising Available

Display advertising will occasionally be available for purchase in *The Agrarian Connector*. If you're a local farm or agri-business and have an interest in promoting your business in our newsletter, please contact Chanin Mountz at 717-552-0071 or chaninmountz0071@gmail.com for more information. This is a great opportunity to promote an event or product at a reasonable rate and reach your target audience - the farming community!

— Farm Bureau Attends County Fair —

The Fulton County Farm Bureau had a record-breaking week at the Fulton County Fair, according to county officials. President Kevin Mountz reported from July 31 through August 5, 24 individuals renewed their membership at a discounted rate for 2024 and 12 individuals signed up as a new member. Those numbers include one renewal and four new memberships, which were given out by the county as part of the annual seed challenge where passersby are asked to take a stab on the number of beans in a jar without going over.

New members include Ryan Peck, Justin and Mary Smith, Angela Mellott, Jada and Will Smith, Jordan and Emma Mellott, Karlin Lynch, Branden Lynch, Clayton Lynch, William Peck, Sue Brant, Cindy Glessner, and Linda and Donald Ray Walters. Those individuals will be approved by the board at the September meeting.

In addition, to new memberships and renewals, the board accepted one application from an interested Young Ag Professional candidate. The candidate had a meet and greet during the fair with some of the board members and the Young Ag Professional co-chairs.

Applications for free YAP memberships will be voted upon in September.

Special thanks goes out to the following individuals for their assistance working membership at the booth during fair week: Olivia Buchheit, Lonnie and Deb Palmer, Kevin Mountz, Amber Brant and Chanin Mountz. Also, thanks to Lonnie and Deb Palmer at Pigeon Cove Farms for providing us with whole milk to distribute during fair week and Michael Glenn for helping set up and tear down the booth and for the popcorn that was handed out.

Thank you!



The *AGRARIAN CONNECTOR*

A publication of the FULTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU

September 2023

Fulton County, PA



- Cultivating New Ideas ...

“What Does A Membership Do For Me?”

Many times, over the past year, I've been asked the same question over and over again: What does a Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) membership do for me? Well, it's all about the benefits! There are discounts for home and auto. They include Ford Motor company with \$500 off on selective Ford trucks, Jiffy Lube service, Sherwin-Williams paints, NRG Energy and Staples Office Products.

There are savings on health and wellness including Script Save Well Rx, Clear Value hearing, and My Free Pharmacy. There are even travel discounts including Choice hotels, Wyndam hotels and resorts, Avis rental cars, and Budget rental cars as well. There are farm and business discounts on Lancaster Farming, Horse Lover, Case, CAT, John Deere and Grainger. Financial and Insurance benefits include PFB Health Services, Farm Bureau Bank, Nationwide Insurance and PFB Legal Services.

Additional benefits include more than 375 local vendors in 50 counties who offer localized discounts. You can download the My Deals app and enjoy even more benefits from vendors nationwide! PFB also adds value to membership and keeps members informed through a variety of print and digital publications. Members receive a 5% discount off advertising rates in all print publications.

PFB is your voice in Harrisburg just like the American Farm Bureau is in Washington DC. The most valuable benefit of all is being part of a close-knit family of farmers and those who support farming all across this Commonwealth. There are more than 260 Fulton County families who are part of approximately 27,000 members across the state. Our membership supports our efforts to preserve the state's agricultural heritage and ensure that family farms can continue to produce local food, grow their communities and promote responsible stewardship of the land and natural resources. So why wait? Tell your friends and neighbors to join today! For more information go to pfb.com or contact PFB Member Services at 1-717-761-2740.

Submitted by: President Kevin Mountz

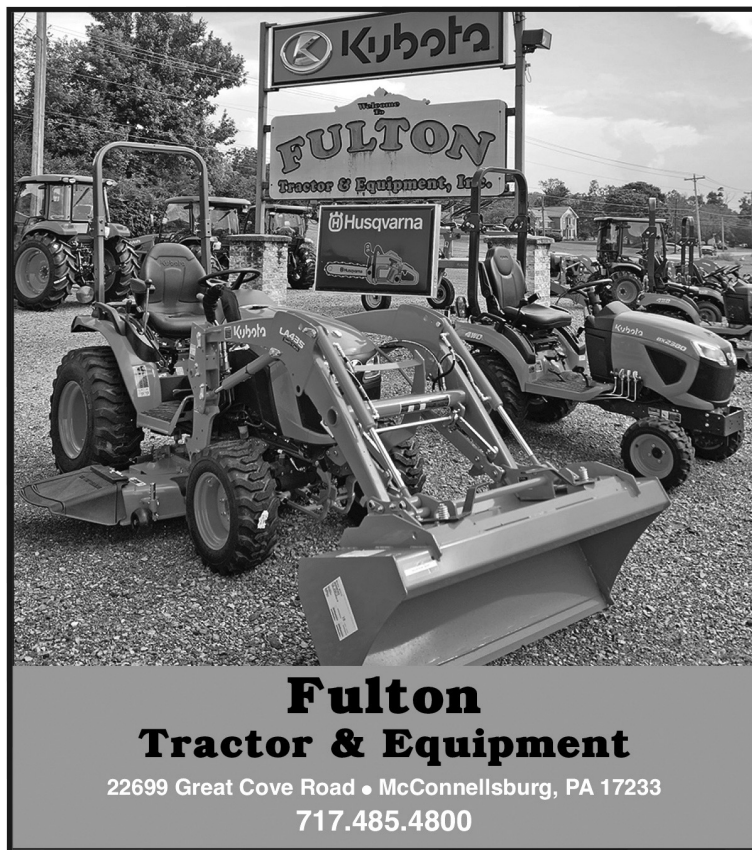
Save the Date!



Mark your calendar for the annual fall membership dinner, which has been set for **Saturday, October 7**, at 4:30 p.m. at the Ron and Connie Richards' pavilion located at 2800 Cito Road, Big Cove Tannery. We will once again be offering a free pig roast to our general membership as a thank you for your ongoing support! The menu will include pulled pork, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, coleslaw, desserts and beverages.

Following the meal, those in attendance will hear a president's report on activities held over the course of the last year, comments from local legislators and guests, discuss proposed policies for the state meeting and oversee board member elections. Door prizes will be awarded, and raffle tickets will be sold for a special prize with all proceeds benefiting the Thanksgiving Blessing Box project.

Members should be receiving a save the date card in the mail as a reminder, which will include registration info and instructions.



Family Picnic Held at Cowans Gap State Park. Young Ag Professionals Host First Ever Event Here

The Young Ag Professionals' branch of the Fulton County Farm Bureau hosted its first-ever district event this summer drawing in farmers and officials from a four-county area.

County Young Ag Professional (YAP) co-chairs Amber Brant and Olivia Buchheit along with senior co-chair Logan Fraker organized a summer, family picnic at Cowans Gap State Park on June 11 that was open to YAP District 9 members from Fulton, Franklin, Cumberland and Adams counties. YAP is a Pennsylvania Farm Bureau leadership program open to individuals and couples between the ages of 18 and 35 to preserve farming and expand ag-related opportunities.

The picnic drew in around three dozen attendees, including YAP members from Fulton, Franklin and Cumberland counties. On hand were District 9 state directors Andrea and Ryan Brown from Cumberland County; Suzanne Shea, District 9 director for the state Women's Leadership Committee; Fulton County Farm Bureau President Kevin Mountz; various county board members; and county general membership.

"The first YAP summer picnic far exceeded our expectations and the goals that we, as co-chairs, set for how we would like the YAP to grow here in Fulton County," Brant stated. "We intend to make it an annual tradition and a fun, relaxing break for our county farmers as well as neighboring county farmers."

In addition to delicious food, fellowship, raffles, cornhole and games for kids and adults, Shea offered a soil demonstration for those on hand.

The county YAP program officially kicked off here earlier this year and included a meet and greet at Ice Fest in Chambersburg for local members and this family picnic, which was funded by a Marianna hoagie and pizza fundraiser and a Growing Communities Grant through the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. Plans are already under way for next year's picnic.

The YAP group has also notably been out and about visiting area farmers markets with baby goat snuggling and had planned to lend a helping hand at the county Farm Bureau's first-ever blood drive. The YAP co-chairs along with county board members were also available weeknights at the 2023 Fulton County Fair that ran from July 30 through August 5 to discuss their program, membership, their t-shirt fundraiser and the benefits of being a Farm Bureau member.

Information on becoming a YAP t-shirt sponsor and t-shirt sales or becoming involved in YAP events can be obtained by calling Amber Brant at 717-658-2147.

Pie In The Face Contest Raises Money For Thanksgiving Project

The Women's Leadership Committee organized a "pie in the face" contest at the Fulton County Fair with all proceeds set to benefit their upcoming Thanksgiving Blessing Box project. During weeknights at the fair, passers-by were able to cast a vote, in exchange for \$1, for a chance to select who would get struck in the face with a pie Friday evening. Willing, or maybe no so willing, participants included board members Kevin Mountz, Lonnie Palmer and Chanin Mountz and Young Ag Professionals co-chairs Logan Fraker, Amber Brant and Olivia Buchheit.

A tally was conducted of the votes cast Friday night. Lonnie Palmer received the most votes with 78 and edged out Kevin Mountz by a mere one vote. The duo agreed due to the close race they would both take a whipped cream pie with sprinkles in the face as it was for a good cause. The event was recorded and posted on Facebook at Fulton County Farm Bureau, PA for those who were unable to attend the fair Friday night.

A total of \$188 was raised for the Thanksgiving blessing box project being overseen by the Women's Leadership Committee. Turkeys and all the fixins' needed for a delicious Thanksgiving meal will be purchased with the monies. Donations are also gladly being accepted and can be mailed to Chanin Mountz at 187 Pineloft Lane, Hustontown, PA 17229. Checks should be made payable to Fulton County Farm Bureau. Please make a notation that the check is for blessing boxes.

The boxes are slated to be delivered to local, farm families that could use an extra hand over the holiday. If you know of a family in need, please contact Chanin Mountz at 717-552-0071 or chaninmountz0071@gmail.com. Information pertaining to the number of individuals in the family, address, contact information and a little regarding their circumstances will be needed. The number of boxes the committee is able to distribute is based on the funds raised.



Kevin Mountz and Lonnie Palmer were the lucky or maybe *not so lucky* recipients of a pie in the face at the county fair compliments of YAP co-chairs Amber Brant and Olivia Buchheit. Monies raised through votes during the pie in the face contest will be used to purchase turkeys and all the fixins' for Thanksgiving blessing boxes.

County To Give Out Three Young Ag Professional Memberships

The Fulton County Farm Bureau will be taking action at their September monthly meeting to offer three free memberships to individuals who qualify for participation in the Young Ag Professionals (YAP) program.

Applications are now being accepted from county residents ages 18-35 who have an active interest in agriculture and have the time and dedication to become a hands-on member with event planning and attending training, conferences and county events.

Applications can be obtained by contacting county President Kevin Mountz at 717-377-0297 or YAP co-chairs Logan Fraker, Amber Brant and Olivia Buchheit. All applications must be filled out and received by August 31.

Blood Drive Canceled

Due to staffing shortages with the American Red Cross, the county Farm Bureau's first-ever blood drive scheduled for July 3 was canceled. Farm Bureau officials received news of the cancellation three days prior to the event. We apologize for the inconvenience for those who had prescheduled to give blood and for those who had planned to walk in that day and maybe missed the correspondence announcing the cancellation. The free items that were scheduled to be handed out that day, hats and campfire mugs designed by Shearer Screen Printing in McConnellsburg, will be offered as promotional items to new members.

Are You Turning 65 This Year and Going on Medicare?

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Health Services

Choosing your Medicare plan can be overwhelming. It can be hard to figure out what you want, or more important, what you need.

Farm Bureau's experienced and trained staff are ready to help. At no cost to you, we can:

- Answer your questions
- Explain and compare options
- Work within your budget
- Help with informed Medicare coverage decisions

Knowledgeable. Helpful. Dedicated.

To check availability in your county call **800.522.2375**.