

Farm Bureau Apparel Now Available For Purchase

Did you know you can purchase both Fulton County and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau apparel? If you're interested in sporting a little ag swag, the Women's Leadership Committee is currently offering our own special t-shirts, long-sleeved shirts and hoodies with our "Faith.Family.Farming" motto and special design created by Dana Signs of McConnellsburg. Our current design will be available to order through 2025, so there will be ample time to order. All proceeds benefit the Committee's community service projects. Contact Chanin Mountz at 717-552-0071 for more information or to place an order.

In addition, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau merchandise is now available online at pfb.com. In the upper right-hand corner, you'll see a tab for apparel. There you'll find anything from hats and jackets to shirts and vests. The online store is available as a result of the efforts of our Regional Organization Director Kenny Sechrist.

Upcoming Events

September 9 at 7 p.m. Monthly Board of Directors meeting at DCNR building in Knobsville.

September 12 at 6 p.m. Monthly Women's Leadership Committee meeting- finalize preparations for FFFF float botanical pumpkins.

September 21 at 5 p.m. Fall membership meeting/free pig roast at 2800 Cito Road, Big Cove Tannery.

October 14 at 7 p.m. Monthly Board of Directors meeting at DCNR building in Knobsville.

October 19 Fall Folk Festival parade float for WLC and YAP members.

November 9 at 2 p.m. WLC Farm to Table Tea for Fulton County Medical Center long-term care residents.

November 11 at 7 p.m. Monthly Board of Directors meeting at DCNR building in Knobsville.

November 17-19 74th annual PFB annual meeting at Hershey Lodge

Reserve Your Seat For The Fall Dinner

The Fulton County Farm Bureau annual fall membership meeting will be held Saturday, September 21, at 5 p.m. at the pavilion of Ron and Connie Richards located at 2800 Cito Road, Big Cove Tannery. The meeting will include a complimentary pig roast catered by Ron Rosenberry Catering and desserts prepared by the Women's Leadership Committee.

In addition to free food and fellowship, the annual meeting will also include voting on proposed changes to the bylaws, as well as door prizes and possibly raffles!

Bring your appetite and be prepared for a great night of discussion, food and fellowship!

Deadline to register is September 11 by contacting Chanin Mountz at 717-552-0071.



The *AGRARIAN CONNECTOR*

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September 2024

Fulton County, PA



- Cultivating New Ideas ...

We have another successful Fulton County Fair under our belt! I am very pleased to report that we received 16 new membership applications and 35 renewals! We are well on our way to capturing the number one spot in the state regarding membership goals.

We had many people stop by our booth and visit the Farm Bureau immersion lab. The lab is an interactive exhibit that promotes agricultural education on many levels. We were very proud that we could offer this exhibit. Thanks to you, we're growing!

Submitted by Kevin Mountz



★ ★ ★ The Rally For Reuben ★ ★ ★

Following the unexpected passing of local pastor, auctioneer and longtime 4-H volunteer Craig Knepper in early July, the Fulton County Farm Bureau rallied to raise monies for Craig's 17-year-old son Reuben.

The Farm Bureau board organized its second annual pie in the face contest held Friday evening of the fair. The event included a total of 11 contestants from various farming-related organizations, elected county officials and Farm Bureau board members and friends of both Craig and Reuben.

Participants included Amanda Shives, of Fulton County Dairy Promotion and FCFB Women's Leadership; David Englert, FCFB treasurer; Chanin Mountz, FCFB Women's Leadership chair; Dustin DeShong, FCFB Young Ag Professional; Isaac Strait of the Fulton County Conservation District; Kevin Mountz, FCFB president; Lisa Truax, Fulton County Extension Office; auctioneer Todd Grace; Travis Vinson of the Fulton County Fair Association; county Commissioner Steve Wible and Joshua Lowery, McConnellsburg High School varsity boys basketball coach.

From telephone calls to enter last-minute votes to scraping their cup holders for loose change, local residents did their part to help raise money for Reuben as well as to laugh and enjoy a good evening of entertainment.

While the lead changed over the week for most votes, Joshua Lowery narrowly came out on top with some help from his family, friends and basketball team. Lowery received 137 votes and was followed by Todd Grace with 133 votes. Kevin Mountz rallied for a third-place finish with 126 votes. All three were gracious winners and accepted a pie topped with sprinkles and chocolate sauce to the face from Reuben.

The event raised over \$1,500 to help with bills and other pressing concerns. Reuben also received a paid for membership to the Farm Bureau compliments of several members.

Thanks to all who shared information about the event, made a donation or came to watch our event!

Dairy Promotion Holds Coronation Ceremony

The Fulton County Dairy Promotion team held its annual coronation ceremony at the Pleasant Ridge Church of the Nazarene on May 18. In preparation for the pageant, Pageant Coordinator Amanda Shives organized a “Dairy Princess” tea party to go over pertinent information needed to help better prepare the young ladies for pageant day.

According to Shives, the Dairy Promotion Team participates in a variety of events annually to educate consumers on the importance of dairy in their diet and the impact dairy farmers have on the economy. The dairy industry in Pennsylvania currently contributes \$12.6 billion on a yearly basis to Pennsylvania’s economy. Ninety nine percent of dairy farms in the state are family-owned operations.

As part of the pageant, Ashlynn McQuait’s reign as the 2023-2024 princess came to an official end. She thanked her team members, mother Amanda and her fellow dairy promoter and sister—Braelynne and finished with a special thank you to promoter Ty Vinson.

The newly crowned 2024-2025 Fulton County Dairy Promotion team consists of: Dairy Darling Delilah Waite; Dairy Maid Laikyn Smith; Dairy misses Brystan Weller, Hailey Flowers, Lily Kline, Fawn Rotz and McKenzie Smith; and Dairy ambassadors Braelynne Shives and Tyanna Vinson. There were no dairy princess candidates this year.

Submitted by Amanda Shives, Dairy Promotion and Women’s Leadership Committee

YAP Hosts Summer Picnic

The Young Ag Professionals division of the Fulton County Farm Bureau hosted its second annual summer picnic. The event held at Cowans Gap State Park on June 30 drew in a crowd of 30 individuals representing the county Young Ag Professionals, the general membership, representatives from the county Board of Directors and Regional Organization Director Kenny Sechrist.

In addition to a delicious potluck meal, the group enjoyed fellowship, cornhole, fishing and a raffle with proceeds earmarked for future Young Ag Professionals’ events. The picnic was organized by county Young Ag Professional co-chairs Kyle and Amber Brant, Olivia Buchheit and Logan Fraker.

Ag Immersion Lab Sets Up At County Fair

The Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation ag immersion lab made its way to the 103rd annual Fulton County Fair thanks to generous sponsors from the community and a Growing Communities grant from the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

The lab was manned by Friends of Ag staff members daily from July 29 through August 3 between 1 p.m. and 9 p.m. and was free to both children and adults. The lab offers numerous interactive activities to visitors including touchscreen monitors to teach onlookers about exercise, sleep, mental health and nutrition; soil sample demonstrations; stories from farmers from around the state; a virtual reality ride through a real farm field; and creating a balanced and healthy meal with puzzle pieces.

The lab received rave reviews from all who entered including Sen. Judy Ward who enjoyed a visit and virtual tractor ride. Homeschool parents and children found it particularly interesting and noted it was a perfect fit for their student portfolios.

Local businesses and residents 282256 who offered generous sponsorships to help bring the lab to the fair were: Green Prepper Solar, Fulton County Medical Center, Dana Signs, Pineloft Landscape & Garden Center, Robert Snyder Agency, Englert Farms, Mellott Wood Preserving, Russell and Tammy Decker, AC&T, Fulton County Fair Association, Sen. Judy Ward, Dennis Mosebey, Town & Country Real Estate, Horizon Farm Credit, Twin Brooks Farm, Plum Hollow Border Collies, Backwoods Diesels Repair and Performance LLC and in memory of Frank and Geraldine Palmer.

State Board Director’s Report

As I write this August will soon be over, and it’s time to start thinking about the Farm Bureau Annual State Meeting in Hershey. It is slated for November 17, 18 and 19. Each county farm bureau will send delegates to attend business sessions and vote on state policies that are discussed in great detail. Our county farm bureau will appoint delegates at our annual business meeting and pig roast on Saturday, September 21 at the Ron Richard’s Farm, 2800 Cito Road, Big Cove Tannery. We hope you can join us at our most important county event. Submitted by Kevin Mountz

Fair Week Wraps Up August 3

After weeks of planning, organizing and packing, the 103rd annual Fulton County Fair is already here and gone in the blink of an eye. In the event you missed it, here’s a recap of what we did:

*Membership: Being a grassroots organization, it’s important to us to share with you what we’ve accomplished and what’s coming down the road. We also want to hear from you about what’s important to you as a member!

*Discounts: We once again offered a \$10 discount off annual membership dues paid fair week for new and existing members. Our bean seed challenge continued to be a hit with passersby, and we gave out a free membership nightly. By the week’s end, we now have 16 new members as well as 35 renewals.

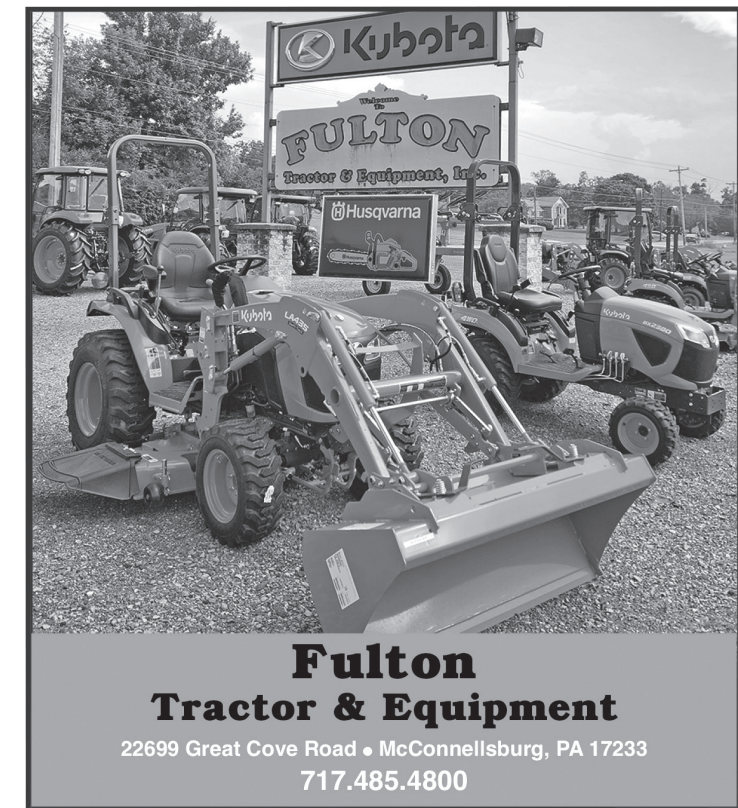
*Welcome Bags: Each of our new Farm Bureau members received a welcome bag, which included a welcome letter from our president, hat or mug, Shipley gloves, pens and information on local and state discounts.

*Treat Bags & Free Milk: The free chocolate milk compliments of Lonnie and Deb Palmer at Pigeon Cove Farm practically flew out of the booth. Both children and adults love the milk from Country Creamery in Greencastle! We also distributed about 80 coloring books and treat bags containing crayons, stickers, activity pages and cow keychains. Thanks to Fulton County Dairy Promotion for their donations toward the treat bags!

*Networking: We have met so many great people through the fair! Farmers, business owners and kids! It’s all about the future farmers for us! There’s nothing better than the kids coming in after they’ve shown their animals or entered their exhibits to share both their joys and sorrows with you.

Read And Win!

Don’t forget that you have a chance to win \$25 just by reading our quarterly newsletter! In every issue we hide one membership number. If you find it and it matches your number, you’re a winner! Call or text Chanin Mountz at 717-552-0071 to claim your prize!



Dairy Promotion Promotes Ice Cream Trail

The Fulton County Dairy Promotion team made a trio of stops during the month of July as part of the local ice cream trail.

Of course, July is national ice cream month. Did you know the average American eats on average, annually around four gallons of ice cream? This is a great way to help get those three servings of dairy every day!



Lynnette Shindle of the The Twist & Shake in Hustontown, Autumn Klaffka from The Cone Zone in McConnellsburg and Angie Gordon of Gordon’s Cruise In in Needmore were thanked for allowing the Dairy Promotion team the opportunity to set up and promote dairy. Watch for dates next year as the trail is an annual tradition!

In addition, the Dairy Promotion ice cream stand was open all week as part of the 103rd annual Fulton County Fair. From bowls and cones to milkshakes, the dairy treats served were a definite treat during the hot, fair week weather!

Submitted by Amanda Shives, Dairy Promotion and Women’s Leadership Committee