



Visit these local businesses for a
Special Farm Bureau Discount!!!!

You will need to check each business individually to see how much the discount is and what it MAY or MAY NOT apply to. You will need to present a current membership card to receive the discount. We appreciate all the businesses that participate in this discount promotion, and recommend you take advantage of their willingness to make this happen. We hope to add more in the near future.

- 1. Barnhart's Lawn, Garden & Bicycle - Hancock, MD
301-678-6438
- 2. Gordon's Memorials - Don & Kathy McClure
McConnellsburg, PA 717-485-5952
- 3. Wrenched and Ready, Performance and Auto Repair
Jeremy Wible - McConnellsburg, PA 717-325-0096
- 4. Peck's Auto Repair and Towing - Gary Peck
McConnellsburg, PA 717-446-9691
- 5. Everett Marble and Granite Works - McConnellsburg, PA
717-485-5999
- 6. Carquest Auto Parts, Thomas Automotive
McConnellsburg, PA 717-485-7213
- 7. AC&T of Hagerstown, Maryland 800-458-3835, ext. 147

- 8. Knobsville Florist - McConnellsburg, PA 717-987-3191
- 9. McLaughlin's Drug Store, Retail Pharmacy
McConnellsburg, PA 717-485-3724
- 10. Sam's Flooring Inc., Bill and Jess Sensinderfer
Saint Thomas, PA 717-369-4351
- 11. Richard Price Farm Equipment 717-987-3395
- 12. Buchanan Trail Sporters, McConnellsburg, PA
717-485-5996



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June 2024

Fulton County, PA



- Cultivating New Ideas ...

Together We Can!

When we belong to the Farm Bureau, we are part of a close-knit community that not only includes people within our county but stretches across the Commonwealth and throughout the country. A fine example of this would be the response to the recent farm accident involving our fellow member Bryan Kling of Hustontown.

Immediately after this occurred, our county Farm Bureau sent out a request for donations for the family to meet immediate needs. This request was met with a massive response from our local community, surrounding counties, from members throughout the state and across the nation, who stepped up to the plate and donated cash, gift cards, farm labor and more to this absolute worthy need.

As your president, I am very humbled and, at the same time, so proud of our members for answering the call to help another in a time of need. Our thanks go out to all who donated. No matter whether large or small, each contribution has and will make a difference. Bryan is currently in rehab, and we ask that you continue to remember him and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Together we can!
Submitted by: President Kevin Mountz



Legislators, Members Invited To Ice Cream Social

The Fulton County Farm Bureau Board of Directors is organizing an ice cream social for county, state and federal officials as well as the general membership on **Thursday, August 29**, at 6:30 p.m. The ice cream social will be held in the Buchanan State Forest headquarters' conference room located at 25185 Great Cove Road, McConnellsburg.

In addition to serving up sweet, dairy treats, this event will allow our elected officials to sit down and have an opportunity to share with us what's going on in our area and districts. There will also be a chance for Farm Bureau members to ask questions and share any ideas or concerns they may have!

Representatives from the Fulton County Dairy Promotion Team are slated to be on hand as well! Please mark your calendar and bring your appetites!

Register by August 15 by calling or texting Chanin Mountz at 717-552-0071 if you plan to attend!



— Farm Bureau Members Attend TASK Conference —

Several members of the Fulton County Farm Bureau family traveled to Gettysburg in February for the annual, two-day Together Advocacy Stimulates Knowledge (TASK) Conference.

Held at the Wyndham, TASK featured keynote speaker Paul Moya, nicknamed the “Harvard Cowboy.” Moya is renowned for utilizing his “cowboy wisdom” to come up with practical solutions for organizational change.

Moya hails from New Mexico and serves as the founder and chief executive officer of Millennial Labs, Inc., a consulting firm that works in conjunction with Fortune 500 companies. Sharing that same knowledge with the more than 100 in attendance from across the commonwealth, Moya focused on various ways farmers can connect with consumers to help tell their own personal story and “agvocate” on behalf of the agricultural industry.

By utilizing social media through photos and videos, Moya suggested each post should share something viewers may not know as well as humor and authenticity, which will allow agriculturalists to add value to their information and connect on a different level with their audience.

Moya also touched on selling people what they want but giving them what they need as part of his keynote address. Sharing examples from various products including Fairlife and Painterland Sisters skyr yogurt, Moya stressed the importance of what today’s consumers want most: sustainability

through ecofriendly products; health and wellness; transparency; locally grown and sourced foods; unique offerings; and personalization.

In addition to an interactive workshop with Farm Bureau members in attendance on ways to elevate their organization, Moya also touched on brand mastery and building future-proof brands that stand out in today’s agricultural industry.

One of the commonwealth’s biggest “agvocates,” Russell Redding, secretary of the state Department of Agriculture, also made an appearance during the TASK Conference. A native and resident of Adams County, Redding referred to farmers as “ordinary people doing extraordinary things.”

According to Redding, the commonwealth has more farmers under the age of 35 than any other state in the nation and leads the way in farmland preservation efforts. Redding also stressed the need for farmers to tell their personal story and added “you can’t tell with the story of Pennsylvania without agriculture.”

“I’m excited for the future,” said Redding. “... You can’t talk about the past or future without us (farmers).”

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Chris Hoffman closed out the conference along with brief comments from Daryn Westergard on American Farm Bureau Federation promotion and education.

Those attending from the Fulton County Farm Bureau included Amanda Shives, Kyle and Amber Brant, Michael Glenn and Chanin Mountz.



Milk, More Than A Very Healthy Drink!
Milk protein infused bandages improve wound healing!

A recent study was conducted to assess the healing benefits of casein, a protein found in milk. During the study researchers mixed pure casein with polycaprolactone, a biodegradable polyester commonly used as a bandage material.

Casein has been known to possess antimicrobial, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties.

Using a special technique, researchers were able to spin this

mixture into bandage-like fibers form which they created “milk”-infused bandages. After testing and evaluation, researchers concluded that wounds treated with the special bandages healed more quickly than with the use of regular medical bandages.

Article Credit: Dairy Herd magazine, October 2023 edition

Submitted by Marlin Lynch

Calendar of Events - 2024

- June 10 at 7 p.m.

Monthly Board of Directors meeting at the DCNR building in Knobsville
- June 20 at 6 p.m.

Women’s Leadership Committee will host a hypertufa class led by Master Gardener Cheryl Alloway at 7640 Black Bear Road, Harrisonville. Cost is \$10. Bring a pair of rubber dish gloves. Class size is limited to 15. Register by June 13.
- June 30 at 1 p.m.

Young Ag Professionals summer picnic at Cowans Gap State Park, Pavilion #3. Bring a covered dish. Registration is due by June 16.
- July 8 at 7 p.m.

Monthly Board of Directors meeting at DCNR building in Knobsville.
- July 28-August 3

Fulton County Fair! We will be set up Monday through Friday for anyone wishing to stop by and renew their membership for 2025.
- August 12 at 7 p.m.

Monthly Board of Directors meeting at the DCNR building in Knobsville.
- August 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Legislative ice cream social for general membership and county, state and federal legislators at the DCNR building in Knobsville. Register by August 15.
- September 21 at 5 p.m.

Fall membership meeting at 2800 Cito Road, Big Cove Tannery! Additional details forthcoming!

To register for Women’s Leadership Committee events or the ice cream social, contact Chanin Mountz at 717-552-0071. Reservations for the Young Ag Professionals summer picnic can be directed to co-chair Kyle Brant at 717-830-6341.



WLC Hosts First Spring Picnic

The Fulton County Farm Bureau Women’s Leadership Committee (WLC) hosted its first-ever spring picnic on Sunday, April 14, at the Big Cove Tannery pavilion of longtime Farm Bureau members Ron and Connie Richards. Fifty-five members enjoyed a delicious chicken dinner along with sides and desserts prepared by the membership. Among those on hand were Suzanne Shea of the state Women’s Leadership Committee, Chief Administrative Officer Todd Bailey and state Board Director Kevin Mountz.

In addition to fellowship, the Young Ag Professionals oversaw a belated Easter egg hunt for the Farm Bureau littles. In addition to lots of candy, there were special eggs to trade in for \$2 bills and other prizes. A raffle was also held by the WLC with proceeds benefitting a fall community service project for the long-term care residents at the Fulton County Medical Center.



Membership Discounts Available At The Fair

The Fulton County Farm Bureau Board of Directors will once again be setting up at the annual **Fulton County Fair** in McConnellsburg slated to run from July 28 through August 3. As part of their display, the Farm Bureau will be offering a variety of discounts to new and returning members.

According to county President Kevin Mountz, any new individuals signing up for a Farm Bureau membership Monday through Friday evenings at the fair will receive a \$10 discount on their 2025 membership fee. That same discount will also be applied to membership renewals for existing members.

In addition, 102080 the Farm Bureau will also be giving away five free memberships throughout the course of the fair. Each weeknight, fairgoers can wager a guess as to how many seeds are inside a jar. The individual coming closest without going over will be given a free, one-year membership.

Whole milk will also be available to passersby compliments of board member Lonnie Palmer and his wife Deb of Pigeon Cove Farms in Warfordsburg. We may also have some treats lined up for children!

We hope to see you at the fair!



PFB Immersion Lab To Visit County Fair

The Fulton County Farm Bureau was the recipient of a Growing Communities Grant through the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and obtained local sponsorships to bring an immersion lab to the **2024 Fulton County Fair**. The PA Farms to Families Immersion Lab teaches visitors about farms and nutrition. Among its features are:

- *touchscreen monitors to teach onlookers about exercise, sleep, mental health and nutrition
- *soil sample demonstration to find out why famers rely on healthy soil
- *hear stories from a diverse group of farmers
- *create a balanced meal with colorful puzzle pieces
- *wear a virtual reality headset and experience a 360 degree ride through a real farm field

The lab is open and free to anyone attending the fair between Monday, July 29, and Friday, August 2.

Local businesses and residents who contributed financially toward this project include 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.



— YAP Members Attend Annual State Conference —

Attending the 2024 Pennsylvania Young Ag Professionals (YAP) Leadership conference opened up a door for a lot of learning! There was a lot of mingling time where you could network, meet new people, learn about their agricultural experience as well as future goal and discuss various current topics of the ag world. There was so much good food and snacks that you were never hungry for a minute. One evening, we spent a couple of hours dancing and enjoying music and having fun! Apart from the food and fun, we did have a fantastic educational experience as well.

The inspirational keynote message was given by Alex Weber, a former host and competitor on American Ninja Warrior. He gave an amazing inspirational speech on overcoming odds and to keep going for your God given purpose. His theme was “The Unstoppable You,” and he encouraged us to keep pushing towards our goals despite hard times.

One of the workshops was given by Steve Wunderlich, who spoke on his experience with using social media to promote agriculture and spread education. He stressed how with one to two percent of the world feeding the other 98%, there is a huge gap between the producer and the buyer.

The current statistic is that your average American citizen is three generations removed from agriculture. If you are in the city and you have everything you need to survive within two blocks, why would you need to know anything about agriculture? Due to this gap, there is a lot of misinformation and misunderstanding surrounding agricultural practices.

What's special about YAP is it has the ability to reach so many people. Due to the younger generation growing up with technology, they can use it more swiftly and much more efficiently to spread their message. Those of us who are still a part of ag, whether we own a farm or simply just grew up in an ag community and support it, have the ability to correct misinformation and spread the truth. Social media provides the power to reach people from all areas with no knowledge of ag.

Wunderlich stated, "A couple keystrokes can change someone's perspective."

He explained how he observed that interactions equal interest. If someone is taking the time to type a comment on your post, they obviously care about the topic and have formed ideas and thought regarding the topic, whether it be true or false. People have questions about food and agriculture and

animals, and they don't know things, so they automatically have a bias. Unless challenged, a bias in someone's mind is the correct truth to them.

It is our job to help others leave false bias behind and in a content-driven world, we might as well use any tool we are able to. We have the power to educate and advocate, and we also have the ability to create change. The majority of people have social media, we might as well be using it to educate others and help them understand agriculture better. You never know who you just might inspire!

Fulton County YAP members attending the annual conference included Olivia Buchheit, Evelyn Stephens, Ryan Shields, Andrew Shields, Kyle Brant and Amber Brant.

Submitted by Evelyn Stephens

First Scholarship Awarded To High School Senior



Hailey Palmer, a member of the Southern Fulton High School Class of 2024, has been awarded the county's first ever Growing Together Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. A total of three seniors applied for the scholarship, and Hailey was chosen following an application review by a subcommittee of the neighboring Franklin County Farm Bureau.

Hailey, the daughter of Brad and Linette Palmer of Warfordsburg, plans to attend Allegany College of Maryland where she will major in business.

In her application, Hailey noted she has worked at Pigeon Cove Farms since 2018. She currently feeds, dehornes and tags calves as well as helps with artificial insemination and takes tissue samples for genomic testing. In her spare time, she's a member/treasurer of the Fulton County 4-H Dairy Club and is a member of the Warfordsburg FFA.

“Without agriculture, my life would look very different than it does today,” she said. “...There are so many misconceptions about agriculture and farming in general that I would love to educate the general public about the truth to help prevent these misconceptions.”

Hailey is slated to meet with the Farm Bureau Board of Directors in June to receive her scholarship check.

Bradshaw Shares Legislative Day Experience

On March 26, Kevin Mountz, Olivia Buchheit, Lonnie Palmer and I attended the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau annual Legislative Day held in Harrisburg. Along with farmers from across the state, we gathered to share our concerns and priorities for 2024.

Speakers for the day included Secretary of Ag Russell Redding, Governor Josh Shapiro, Senator Judy Schwank, Representative Dan Moul and Representative Eddie Day Pashinski along with PFB President Chris Hoffman.

Fulton County Farm Bureau members along with members from Bedford, Blair, Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata counties also met with Senator Judy Ward and Representative Jesse Topper to discuss wildlife, solar energy, the environment, dairy and budget request issues.

There is a \$5 million proposal for a new state laboratory in western Pennsylvania that will increase testing capacity and help with rapid diagnosis and disease mitigation.

We also requested their support for funding for the University of PA school of Veterinary Medicine and UPenn Center for Infectious Disease. They did not receive funding last year, and they provide vital services to farmers in our state. Penn Vet is the only vet school in Pennsylvania. Approximately 60% of their graduates continue to work in the state following graduation.

Submitted by Alonna Bradshaw

Projections for the Cultivated Meat Market; Reality In America!

Cultivated meat products for human consumption, yes, just two nations in the world have given their approval for that very thing: the United States and Singapore.

Research and marketing predictions claim that by the year 2035, “cultivated meat products” will claim a two billion dollar share of consumable meats.

There are 16 known/registered companies that claim to have interest or investments in products of this source. Five of those companies are located in the U.S.

Two of the major companies here are Good Meat and Upside Food. Bill Gates is and has been a major investor in Upside Food since its inception in 2017. Both of these companies were given USDA approval to begin production in June of 2023.

“Cultivated chicken” is the latest rage, with the infamous “nugget” being the target of production emphasis, so, no surprise on the population of interest on that one. The company says it takes about three weeks to produce its chicken fillet product.

They also claim to be working on other types of meats, including cultivated beef, using cells from pasture-raised animals and Wagya from Japan.

Article credit: The Epoch Times, January 31-February 6, 2024

Submitted by Marlin Lynch

— Fulton County Farm Bureau Recognized For Achievements —

Fulton County was among the counties represented at the annual Region 3 Farm Bureau Day held in Carlisle on February 29.

The event included an array of guest speakers, pesticide training for those needing credits and updates on state and federal legislation and policies. Both Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Chris Hoffman and Chief Administrative Officer Todd Bailey made an appearance and took time to address the crowd on issues dealing not only with membership but on ways to give back to members, fundraising ideas and events and the future of agriculture.

Fulton County was once again cited for making gains at a regional and state level with its ongoing efforts. Bailey referenced the popularity of the county’s fall membership dinner, which totaled just shy of 100 in attendance. The county was also recognized for organizing a Thanksgiving blessing box project for members of the farming community; their efforts to host a blood drive and health/mental awareness event; and the progress made in a year with their active Young Ag Professionals and Women’s Leadership groups.

Bailey encouraged those in attendance to be represented and seen within their communities. County members publicly recognized for signing new members for 2024 were Kyle Brant and Marlin Lynch with three each, Kevin Mountz (4), Lonnie Palmer (5) and Chanin Mountz (10). The county was also recognized for being the closest in the region to reaching its membership goal.

“I believe in agriculture,” said Bailey, who was once in the corporate world but transitioned to the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau 19 years ago for “something that had true meaning.”

Meanwhile, Hoffman talked about what’s at stake for agriculture while moving into the future. Issues included Prop 12, the H2A workforce, legislation on Sunday hunting and local issues such as solar panels and urban sprawl.

“There’s a lot at stake for agriculture. What makes the difference is you,” Hoffman told the farmers on hand.

PFB’s Grant Gulibon was also among the featured speakers to appear before the crowd of 60 at the Bongiorno Conference Center and tackled the topic of environmental affairs. The highly pathogenic avian influenza has reportedly reemerged in recent weeks popping up in several flocks in the commonwealth. To date, avian influenza has affected 82 million birds in 48 states across the nation.

Gulibon also made note that other animal health issues remaining on the radar for PFB are chronic wasting disease; improving producer access to veterinary medications; and the shortage of large animal veterinary services. Gulibon went on to reference other environmental issues ranging from the statewide economic strategy, which touches on agriculture as one aspect of the 10-year plan, to dog law modernization and permitting/ regulatory reform.

Bailey Fisher provided the federal affairs update on various topics such as bringing whole milk back into schools. The PFB supports, Fisher stated, H.R. 1147 known as the Whole Milk For Healthy Kids Act which would allow whole, reduced fat, low fat and fat free flavored and unflavored milk in school cafeterias. The Act has stalled, however, and is awaiting action by the U.S. Senate.

Proper labeling of various products like milk, yogurt, cheese, eggs and milk also remains a hot topic on the federal level. Specifically looking at dairy, the PFB as well as the American Farm Bureau Federation support the enforcement of laws regarding the fraudulent and misleading labeling of dairy products.

Lily Guthrie tackled state government affairs through her presentation, which touched on solar panels. The PFB remains firm in its stance that utility-scale solar projects not be permitted on Class 1, 2 and 3 Pennsylvania farmland. In addition, it recommends a fee be placed on solar farms that would in turn be placed in the state Agriculture Land Preservation Fund and that companies leasing land for solar and wind energy be required to pay decommissioned bonds that cover the disposal costs once a system is no longer useful or operational.

Other featured speakers were Jordon Bassler and Kaycee Stephens of Corteva; Penn State University Trustee Don Cairns; Charlene Espenshade of PA Friends of Ag Foundation; Jeff Hackenberg, client relationship manager for Penn State Extension; and Andy Bater, PFB state board director.

Counties on hand, in addition to Fulton, included Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, Perry, York and Mifflin and Juniata. The annual event was organized by PFB Region 3 Regional Organization Director Kenny Sechrist and sponsored by Horizon Farm Credit, Hillandale Farms, SCS Insurance Agency and Shipley Energy.





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