

THE MARKET Bulletin

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

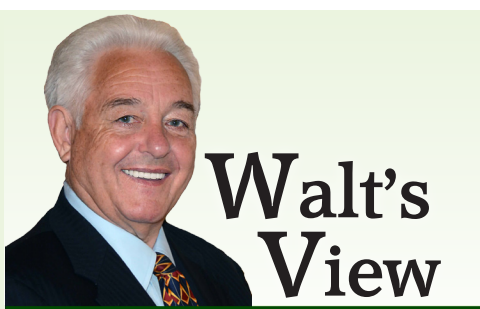


Walt Helmick, Commissioner

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January 2016



Walt's View

Investing in Agriculture

As we start 2016 we know that the challenges ahead of us will be great as we continue to grow Agriculture in West Virginia

Prior to be elected as your Commissioner of Agriculture I served in the West Virginia Legislature for more than two decades. During that time I was chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the experience gave me the opportunity to learn and gain an in-depth understanding of our state's budgeting process

We all know that finances in West Virginia have been tight and will continue to be that way for the next several years. Every Department of state government has felt the impact. Since taking office as Commissioner in 2013 the Department of Agriculture has endured nearly \$3 million in budget cuts with the expectation of more to come.

That said, we must continue to invest in Agriculture because it is a real economic opportunity as we work in West Virginia to diversify our tax base and create good jobs with livable wages.

The Legislature will go into session this month to address many issues, the majority being those having fiscal implications. I find it imperative that our lawmakers take note of the REAL possibilities that Agriculture can provide.

We have worked diligently during the last three years to develop more commercial farming opportunities, establish a system of Aggregation points and lay the groundwork to re-energize production of West Virginia grown food products.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Pictures from the 2015 Winter Blues Farmers' Market

The West Virginia Small Farm Conference started out, well, small. Twelve years later, the event continues to grow and impact agriculture businesses throughout the state.

The three-day event, set for February 25-27 at the Charleston Civic Center, draws big crowds. The goal centers on bringing growers together with sellers and buyers to get the word out about West Virginia's fresh-grown food, how to make a profit, and support the state's food system.

"The Small Farm Conference is about all the problems and all the opportunities that these small family farms face," says Tom McConnell, the Program Leader for the WVU Extension Service Small Farm Center.

Farming experts from seven states as well as regulators and successful farmers from across the region serve as workshop leaders and mentors for beginning and growing businesses here in West Virginia.

Small farms make up nearly 98 percent of all farms in West Virginia. That's the highest in the nation.

"These small acreage properties can be prosperous. There's a market for everything we grow here in West Virginia," according to McConnell. "We just have to learn how to make

that happen."

A big part of that is the Winter Blues Farmers Market taking place on the first night of the conference, February 25 from 4 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Last year several dozen West Virginia farmers and producers set up shop in the grand hall at the Civic Center. Hundreds come out to see, smell, and sample what West Virginia growers have in season in the middle of winter.

"We want the farmers to be there to show off what they're doing and make contacts. A lot of people that go to the Winter Blues Farmers' Market are looking for a supplier," says McConnell. "We want the public to come because you can't beat it. We come to the Capitol City offering fresh

produce, meats, and cheeses."

Paul Mock, the owner of Mock's Greenhouse in Berkeley Springs, attends the conference each year and puts his produce on display.

"It gives me a chance to network with the other growers and extension specialists. I'm a year-round hydroponics gardener. The Winter Blues Market turns out to be a great way to show my produce in another part of the state that normally I wouldn't see," stresses Mock. "New people have access to my food!"

Small Farm, cont. on page 2

Small FARM conference

connecting growers with sellers & buyers



Winter Blues FARMERS' MARKET

West Virginia University
EXTENSION SERVICE
SMALL FARM CENTER

4:00-7:30 pm
Feb. 25, 2016
Charleston Civic Center

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WVDA taking “measured approach” as hemp production takes root this Spring

Hemp is a hot topic these days. With changes earlier this year to West Virginia’s 2002 Industrial Hemp Development Act, there are a lot of questions about the future of hemp production in the Mountain State.

“I get calls weekly from people who are interested in growing hemp, at least four calls a week,” according to WVDA Plant Industries Director Eric Ewing.



Ewing and WVDA Chief of Staff Chris Ferro are the “point men” when it comes to agriculture and industrial hemp in West Virginia.

“If we’re going to have a legitimate program going forward, we’re going to have to take a measured approach to this,” stresses Ferro. “The Department has to vet the hemp, make sure it’s legitimate industrial hemp.”

State and federal laws currently allow approved individuals to grow *Cannabis sativa*. The catch is that hemp can only contain .3 percent or less concentration of tetrahydrocannabinol, the principle psychoactive compound found in marijuana.

As of December, the department received 15 applications from those wanting to grow hemp. Three of those got provisional approval. Ewing says most folks who call his office inquiring about growing hemp don’t realize at this point it’s in the research phase.

“We want to make sure these are research projects. We think if they are, growers are covered by the Farm Bill and our state law,” explains Ewing.

Research projects vary from growing hemp to find out which seeds produce the best quality and quantity of the plant here in West Virginia to seeds that produce quality oils, which can be used in beauty products and foods.

“If the applications say, ‘I just want to grow hemp.’ That’s not enough. We need to know their long-term plan, an end game,” says Ewing.

Those applicants who do get WVDA approval to grow can’t just start planting. There’s a lot of hurdles to climb. The first is passing federal and state background checks. Once that’s done, the approved growers need to order hemp seed through the WVDA.

“Seed sourcing is the major impediment right now. There’s no legal domestic seed source in the United States because Congress made it part of the Controlled Substances Act,” explains Ferro. “The Farm Bill says we have to get seed source approval from the DEA.”

Most hemp seed is coming from either Canada or Europe. Once approved growers determine what type of seed they want, the WVDA must vet it to make sure the company is on the up and up and the hemp seed meets the strict THC levels. The DEA has the final say on whether it meets federal standards.

“We’ll be ordering our first hemp seeds this winter,” says Ewing. “We make the order. It arrives. The WVDA locks it up until it’s planting time. Then we ask the approved growers, ‘How much are you going to need for your trial?’ If they give a legitimate explanation, we release the seed to them.”

As soon as those hemp seeds go into the ground, the approved growers must contact the WVDA. Department inspectors will visit the operation periodically through the growing season to collect samples and test for THC levels.

Once the hemp is ready for harvest, there’s another road block. That hemp can only be sold within West Virginia.

“The market is really undefined right now because the way the federal laws are set up. You are technically confined to an intrastate market. You can sell within the borders of West Virginia. If you start to transport materials outside the state, under the current parameters of the Controlled Substance Act, you have part of a schedule 1 drug,” explains Ferro.

“If we’re going to have a legitimate program going forward, we must take a measured approach to this,” Ferro adds. “We’re letting other states like Kentucky and Colorado get further ahead when it comes to seed production and taking the product to market. They appear to be geared up and have the resources and wherewithal to fight a federal case.”

Ferro and Ewing estimate it will take about two years for approved growers here in West Virginia to gather the data they need for their hemp research projects. By then, Congress may provide a solution for the marketing issue and interstate sales.

“By nature, this department is fairly aggressive on things, especially economic matters. However, we’re hampered by the uncertainty in D.C. So we’re erring on

the side of caution. The DEA is still the hammer on this,” says Ferro. “I’d hate to see either approved growers or the department face federal prosecution.”

Ferro says it comes down to credibility. A simple misunderstanding when it comes to marketing hemp could put the state in a tight spot. So until the federal government comes up with more defined rules, the WVDA will be playing it safe.

If you have any questions about growing hemp in West Virginia, you can contact Eric Ewing at 304-558-2212 or eeewing@wvda.us. The WVDA industrial hemp application and WV Industrial Hemp Development Act can be found on our website at www.agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/plantindustries/Pages/Agricultural_Pest_Survey.aspx.

Small Farm, cont. from page 1

Isaac Lewis, the Agricultural Sciences teacher for the Hampshire County School system, finds a lot of good reasons to bring his students to the conference and set up shop at the farmers market with a truckload of meat processed by the teens.

“We’re learning what people want, what people want to buy.”

For example, last year they wish they would have brought along more of the roast beef they cut up in their meat lab. This year they hope to be better prepared. However, Lewis stresses it’s the intangible lessons that are most valuable.

“While we were packing up last year, my kids got to help another farmer from our area take down his large display. The folks with the bakery at the market, an older couple, the students helped them as well. That kind of lesson is worth way more than how much they learn about the business end,” stresses Lewis. “They learned how to be a part of the agriculture community. Those are lessons that aren’t printed in a text book, that you can’t find on You-Tube.”

Two of his students now work for that first farmer because of the initiative they took at last year’s market.

McConnell says lots of good things happen at the Small Farms Conference.

“This is a great place to learn how to make our business better. We promote the daylights out of it so we can be more successful each year and have more people come see what farming is all about.”

It’s not too late to sign up for the conference or a space at the Winter Blues Farmers Market. For more information, go to <http://smallfarmcenter.ext.wvu.edu/events/conference>.

Walt’s View, cont. from page 1

There is still plenty of work to be done but in order for us to succeed we have to have funds to invest in Agriculture so that 10 years from now we are looked at like our neighboring states as a location where buyers can get quality and quantity crops and livestock with a competitive price.

It can and will be done with the support of our state leaders and their recognition of Agriculture as a business that won’t go away. We all must eat, that can’t be debated. West Virginians can and are growing fresh, healthy products on West Virginia land to feed West Virginians.

We have to take that to the next level.

Encouraging the next generation of Farmers

I have visited a number of schools lately to speak with FFA members about the opportunities for them to have a career in farming in West Virginia. Although a number of fine Ag careers have been touted for college graduates, there has not been much encouragement for students to pursue one rather obvious choice – farming.

It is one of the best options for West Virginia

students to consider. Like the rest of the country, we have an aging farmer population. At the same time, we have consumers who want to buy local products, as we have demonstrated with our potato project. As I said earlier in this message, we also have a state that desperately needs to diversify its economy and a food market that consistently exports an enormous portion of its food dollars elsewhere.

Along with the other things the WVDA is doing to redevelop commercial agricultural industries, we must also convince young people that becoming a farmer is a great thing they can do for their state and themselves. As I have traveled the state meeting these students, I try to impress on them that West Virginia was once a farming state that produced nearly everything it consumed. We still have the resources and the ability, we just need to develop the will of our young farmers.

Until next month I encourage you all to continue voicing your support for Agriculture in West Virginia.

Walt



Commissioner Helmick speaks to FFA members from a half-dozen counties gathered at Buckhannon-Upshur High School for a regional competition. His message: West Virginia was once a farming state that produced nearly everything it consumed and it can do the same thing again with the help of young, business-minded farmers willing to take advantage of consumer demand for local products.

“The most important thing my father taught me about farming was to make quick decisions. You have to make decisions on the job. You can’t wait until tomorrow. And you don’t worry about the decisions you’ve made. If you made a good one, fine. If it was a bad one, it happened yesterday. You move on.”

– Smith McCausland

Nine Decades of Life on the Farm

Smith McCausland knows the 650 acres of his family farm like the back of his hand. He’s spent his entire life working the land. At the age of 92, he has no regrets about his career choice.

“I couldn’t have liked anything better than farming,” the Mason County native said. “I loved growing up here. It was a great experience, one you’d never be able to get any place else.”

Born in 1923, McCausland was raised in an old stone house on the banks of the Kanawha River. He knew from the very beginning he had some big footsteps to fill. He is the grandson of Gen. John McCausland.

The general, orphaned at an early age, came to live in Henderson, WV with his aunt and uncle. A graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, McCausland joined the Confederate Army at the start of the Civil War and fought several key battles, including the burning of Chambersburg. After the war, the general and his wife settled down to a life of farming on 3,000 acres straddling the Mason/Putnam County line. They called their home Grape Hill.

More than 150 years later, McCausland can look out his living room window, across Route 35 and watch cattle roam in the same field his grandfather farmed.

“The farm back then was nothing like it is now,” explained McCausland. “They had a lot of forest they had to clear. They were able to put it into production only after they tilled it, to drain the water, in the late 1860’s,” explained McCausland.

Corn, wheat, and oats filled the fields while hundreds of head of cattle grazed the pastures. When the general died in 1927, he divided the farm between his children. McCausland’s father retained about 1,000 acres and continued the family tradition. When Smith was born, he fell into farm life as well, tagging along with his father on all sorts of adventures.

“They used to drive the cattle from here in Pliny down to Henderson, 18 miles, in the spring. They would pasture them and then bring them back in the fall. Route 35 was not there. There was a little country road that went behind the house. All you had to do was start the cattle down the road and they’d pretty much go.”

“I saw my dad sell cattle for five cents a pound. They were big, fat cattle that were finished out. Dad was glad to get that amount. There are a lot of expenses with farming. Sometimes it was a close profit.”

McCausland and his father used mules to plant the crops in the spring.

“We didn’t have any chemicals. We didn’t have any fertilizers. Your fertilizer was the manure that came out of the barn!”

Come harvest time, the workload increased.

“We used a wheat binder. It would cut the wheat, fall on a canvas, and roll up. It was tied up in a bundle. You had a carrier that would hold about 10 bundles. Then they tripped it and it would drop it off. You had men that had to shuck it and let it stand in the field and cure until it was ready to be thrashed,” said

McCausland. “That was another job! The hay was just the same.”

McCausland remembered as many as ten field hands working alongside him and his father during harvest.

In 1940, Smith left the farm to attend West Virginia University. However his stay was cut short. WWII broke out the next year and he was needed back at home.

“There were a lot of young men deferred to work on farms, to work the land and raise livestock. We had over 300 head of cattle,” says McCausland.

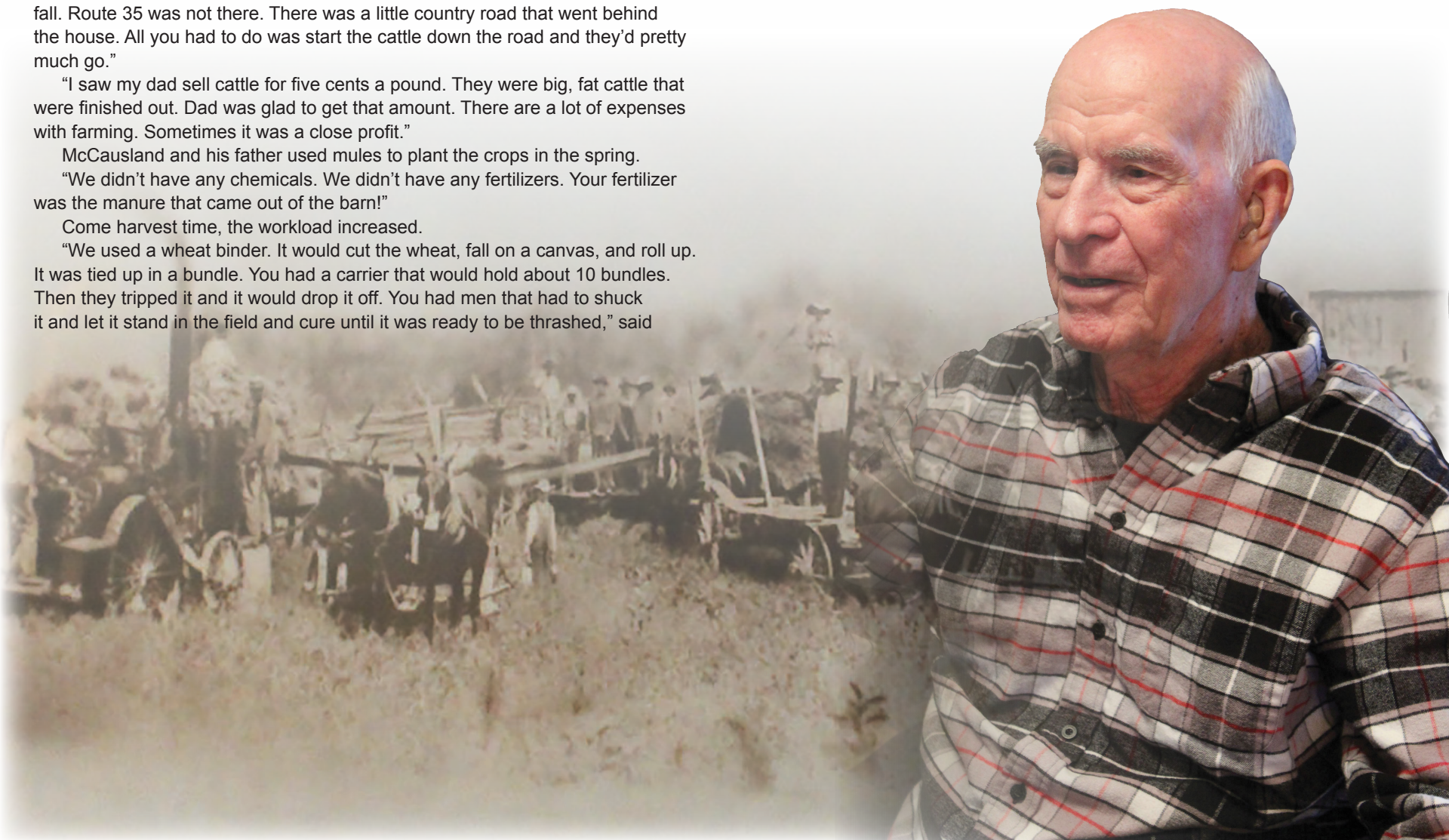
He said hard work was a given. He got up at the break of dawn and worked well into the evening. There were successful harvests and lean years. Along the way he learned what it took to run a business.

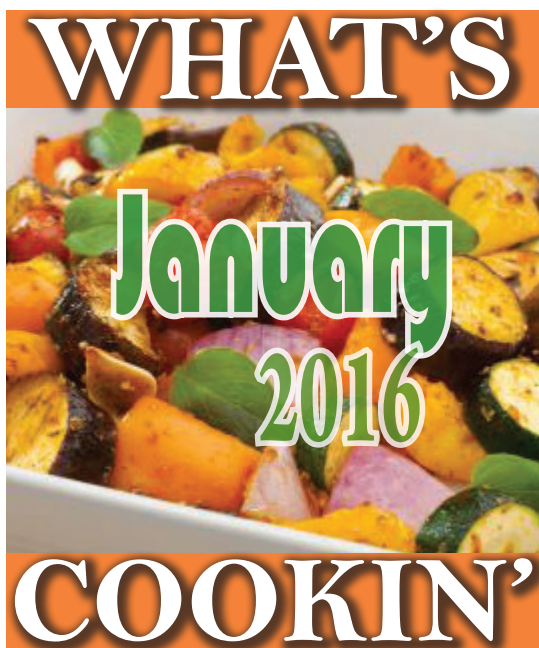
“The most important thing my father taught me about farming was to make quick decisions. You have to make decisions on the job. You can’t wait until tomorrow. And you don’t worry about the decisions you’ve made. If you made a good one, fine. If it was a bad one, it happened yesterday. You move on.”

Smith actively farmed his land until three years ago when an accident forced him to hand over the day to day operations. He hired a retired veteran to do the job. McCausland still plans and makes the big decisions about the farm. His employee carries out the job.

“I like farming because every day is different. You don’t know when you go to work what you’re going to do. You have an idea but you may have to switch and do what you have to do,” said McCausland. “That’s what makes it interesting, being able to adjust. If you don’t adjust, you don’t belong on a farm!”

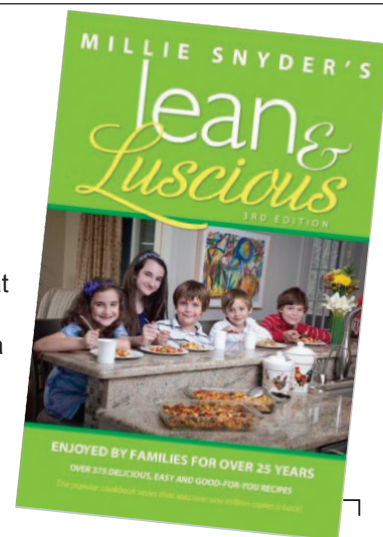
McCausland isn’t sure about the future of his farm. He hopes one of his grandchildren will take an interest and carry on the family tradition, just like he and his father before him.





Lightening it up in the New Year

Happy New Year! It's that time of year when many of us are thinking about healthy eating and getting a fresh start. We hope the recipes below, taken from Millie Snyder's *Lean and Luscious* cookbook (3rd edition) will give you some great inspiration for healthy meals in 2016. There are more than 375 recipes in the cookbook that use readily available and affordable ingredients. Snyder is the area director for Weight Watchers and resides in Charleston, WV. This cookbook is available at amazon.com, and at the WV Marketplace at Capitol Market among other locations! Enjoy!



Italian Veggie Bake

- 1 cup zucchini, unpeeled, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1 cup mushrooms, quartered
- 1 cup broccoli, cut into florets
- ½ cup yellow squash, unpeeled, cut into 1-inch cubes
- ½ cup cauliflower, cut in florets
- ½ cup chopped onion
- ½ medium green bell pepper, sliced
- 1 one-pound can salt-free (or regular) tomatoes, chopped, undrained
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- ½ teaspoon dried oregano
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ⅛ teaspoon pepper
- Salt to taste
- 6 ounces shredded part-skim Mozzarella cheese (1½ cups)
- 2 tablespoons Parmesan cheese, grated

Preheat oven to 375°F. Spray a 7x11-inch baking pan with nonstick cooking spray. Combine vegetables and spices in a large bowl and mix well. Spoon into prepared pan. Cover tightly and bake 45 minutes, or until vegetables are tender, stirring halfway through cooking time. Uncover vegetables and sprinkle with cheeses. Continue to bake, uncovered, 10 minutes, or until cheese is melted and begins to brown

Per serving: Calories, 125; Total Fat, 5.3g; Cholesterol, 18mg; Sodium, 186mg; Total Carbohydrates, 9.4g; Dietary Fiber 2.5g; Protein, 9.9g

Cranberry-Stuffed Chicken Breasts

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breasts | 4 slices whole wheat bread, cut into small cubes and toasted in a 350°F oven until dry |
| 1 cup cranberries | 2 tablespoons raisins |
| 3 tablespoons sugar | 2 tablespoons water |
| 1 teaspoon grated fresh orange peel | Paprika |
| ¼ teaspoon salt | Dried parsley flakes |
| ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon | |

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray a 10-inch pie pan with nonstick cooking spray. Place each chicken breast between 2 pieces of wax paper and flatten with a mallet until chicken is ½-inch thick.

Combine cranberries, sugar, orange peel, salt and cinnamon in a blender or food processor. Process until cranberries are chopped. Spoon mixture into a bowl and add bread cubes, raisins and water, mixing well. Add a little more water if necessary to moisten stuffing.

Divide stuffing mixture evenly onto the center of each chicken breast. Pull corners together and fold up edges to enclose the stuffing. Turn the chicken over and place, smooth side up, in prepared pan. Sprinkle liberally with paprika and parsley flakes. Cover pan tightly with aluminum foil and bake 40 minutes. Makes 4 servings.

Per serving: Calories, 262; Total Fat, 2.7g; Cholesterol, 65mg; Sodium, 371mg; Total Carbohydrates, 30.3g; Dietary Fiber 3.6g; Protein, 29.2g

Rosemary Turkey Cutlets

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 pound turkey breast cutlets | 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard |
| 1 cup mushrooms | 1 teaspoon dried rosemary, crumbled |
| ¾ cup plain nonfat Greek yogurt | ¼ teaspoon garlic powder |
| 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour | Pepper to taste |
| ½ cup dry white wine | |

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray a 8-inch square baking pan with nonstick cooking spray. Place turkey in pan. Top with mushrooms. In small bowl, combine remaining ingredients, mixing well. Spread evenly over turkey and mushrooms. Bake, uncovered, 45 minutes. Makes 4 servings.

Per serving: Calories, 166; Total Fat, 2g; Cholesterol, 69mg; Sodium, 167mg; Total Carbohydrates, 7.1g; Dietary Fiber 0.4g; Protein, 29.9g

Chocolate Ricotta Spread

This spread makes a great appetizer when served with thin apple or pear slices. It can also be served as a light, refreshing dessert. Makes 4 servings (2 tablespoons each serving)

- ½ cup part-skim ricotta cheese
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 2 teaspoons unsweetened cocoa
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- ¼ teaspoon rum or almond extract

Combine all ingredients in a small bowl. Mix Well. Serve right away or chill for later serving.

Per serving: Calories, 59; Total Fat, 2.5g; Cholesterol, 10mg; Sodium, 38mg; Total Carbohydrates, 5.3g; Dietary Fiber 0.3g; Protein, 3.7g

Asparagus Cheese Tart

This elegant no-crust quiche-like pie serves 8 as a side dish or 6 as a light entree.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 10-ounce package frozen asparagus spears | 2 tablespoons plus 2 teaspoons reduced-calorie margarine |
| 1⅓ cups low-fat (1%) cottage cheese | ¾ cup liquid egg substitute |
| ⅔ cup nonfat dry milk | 2 teaspoons minced onion flakes |
| ½ cup water | 1 packet low-sodium instant chicken or vegetable-flavored broth mix |
| ¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour | 3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese |
| 2 teaspoons baking powder | |

Cook asparagus according to package directions. Drain. Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray a 9-inch pie pan with nonstick cooking spray. Cut each asparagus spear into 3 pieces. Arrange pieces in prepared pan. In a blender, combine remaining ingredients, using only half of the Parmesan cheese. Blend until smooth. Pour over asparagus. Sprinkle with remaining Parmesan cheese. Bake 30 minutes, or until set and lightly browned. Cook 5 minutes before serving. Makes 8 servings.

Per serving: Calories, 241; Total Fat, 4.3g; Cholesterol, 6mg; Sodium, 443mg; Total Carbohydrates, 26.5g; Dietary Fiber 6.9g; Protein, 24.4g

Growing Wood County FFA Chapter Constructing New Barn

There's a barn raising in progress at Parkersburg South High School. The Wood County FFA put up the money. The Building Construction class at the school handled the construction.

"This will be a working barn once it's complete," stressed Kari Brown, the Wood County Technical Center Agricultural Sciences Instructor.

Work started last spring when the two classes teamed up to tear down an old greenhouse behind the high school. The concrete pad was left in place and a much smaller greenhouse was built on the back end. When school began in August, Building Sciences Instructor Mike Kimble and four seniors measured, hammered, and sided the barn from the bottom up on the front end of the existing concrete pad.

"It's a collaborative project," explained Kimble. "We get input from the ag science students. If we need an extra hand, they come out and help."

By Christmas break, phase one of the project was complete.

The 26 x 40 barn was ready to be put into use come second semester.

It couldn't come at a better time. With a growing FFA membership in Wood County, the barn will be used for multiple purposes.

"Now we'll have holding pens for our animals. When we do castration, we'll have a spot for that and an area for tractor restoration," says PSHS senior and FFA member Emmalee Alatorre, who's helped work on the barn.

Tractor restoration will start in the barn this semester. They'll be able to castrate hogs in the space next fall.

"For example, I have a lot of kids raising hogs this year for our ham and bacon

project. Soon we'll be able to bring those animals to the barn, castrate them, and give them vaccinations. This will be a safe and secure facility instead of the trailer in the high school parking lot where it draws a lot of negative attention," explained Brown.

Eventually Brown hopes to raise enough money to add stalls inside and outside the barn to accommodate livestock.

"When hogs reach weight for our ham and bacon sale, this can be a central holding area. We might be able to raise livestock. The students need to learn how to care for an animal including: determining proper nutrition, sanitation, keeping bedding clean, etc."

Phase one of the barn came in at \$12,000.

"This cost about one-third of what it would if they had hired an outside company," said Kimble.

One private contractor quoted Brown \$40,000 for phase one.

Phase two of the project will cost the building sciences class another \$8,000. That will pay for dry wall, installing benches and stalls, and connecting electricity inside the building, plus constructing the outside stalls.

"We have a lot of potential here," said Brown. "We have kids from all three Wood County high schools (Parkersburg South, Parkersburg High School, and Williamstown). This facility gives us a chance to grow and expand."



NRCS provides \$70K toward community garden projects, partners with local Conservation Districts

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recently provided \$70,000 in federal funding to the West Virginia Association of Conservation Districts to develop community garden projects. The agreement continues to build upon the long-standing partnership between NRCS and the West Virginia Association of Conservation Districts.

"The intent of the agreement is to provide conservation education opportunities to local schools through the establishment of community gardens," said Louis Aspey, State Conservationist. "Conservation education is a collective effort. This funding allows the NRCS to support our valued partners and give communities an opportunity for new growth through educating students on agriculture production."

educating students on agriculture production."

As part of the agreement, each of the 14 local Conservation Districts will have up to \$5,000 for supplies, outreach, education and other miscellaneous expenses. The goal is to educate students and create a community garden within the district. The local Conservation Districts can work with one or more schools to build one or more community gardens.

The idea to contribute in the form of community gardens came from a dinner hosted in Tucker County as part of the Northeast National Association of Conservation Districts meeting. The students raised all the food that was served as part of a banquet dinner to attendees. For Aspey, the meal triggered an idea to bring a similar experience to other locations in West Virginia.

"The students worked hard through various agriculture

programs and organizations to make the dinner possible," Aspey said. "It was a creative way to educate students on agriculture production and something I hoped could be given to more students. With our partners, NRCS can be proactive in showing the links between agriculture and conservation."

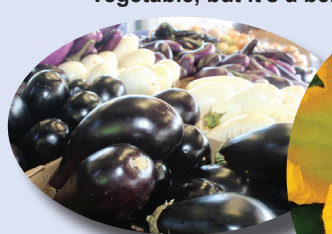
One option for a community garden is a high tunnel system, an NRCS conservation practice used as a season "extender" allowing farmers to grow crops a little bit earlier or later than the season will permit. In high tunnels, plants are grown directly in the ground, and the temperature is regulated by opening or closing the plastic curtain sides and doors on the ends. High tunnel systems have proven to extend the growing season up to six months thereby providing fresh farm-to-table produce to the school for a longer period of time.

"This is a great opportunity for us to receive financial support for our conservation education efforts," James Moore, WVACD Director said. "We appreciate NRCS funding to assist our local Conservation Districts in contributing even more to those most eager to learn. I'm looking forward to seeing the results of their efforts and know it will be a great success."

Aspey officially announced the agreement at the quarterly WVACD meeting in October 2015. The success of the agreement will determine the direction of future projects with the WVACD and other partners.

Fun Farm FACTS

We eat the fruit of the eggplant in a cooked form and consider it a vegetable, but it's a berry!



A honeybees' sense of smell is so precise that it can differentiate hundreds of floral varieties.

WANT MORE FUN FACTS?
Follow us on Twitter @WVDeptofAg



Sheep will graze for an average of seven hours per day, munching mostly on grass, clover, forbs.



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Classified Announcements

Available on the Web: wvagriculture.org/market_bulletin/market_bulletin.html

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an Ad: ►

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- Fax: 304-558-3131
- Email: marketbulletin@wvda.us
- Mail: 1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305

AD DEADLINES

February 2016. . .

Phone-In ads for the **February** issue must be received by **12 noon on Thursday, January 14.**

Written ads for the **February** issue must be received by **1 p.m. on Friday, January 15.**

March 2016. . .

Phone-In ads for the **March** issue must be received by **12 noon on Monday, February 15.**

Written ads for the **March** issue must be received by **1 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16.**

To subscribe to *The Market Bulletin*, email marketbulletin@wvda.us or phone 304-558-3708.

Apiary Sales

Italian Bees, preorder 3 lb. package, may del., \$100/ea Stephanie Bender, 222 Davis Ave., Elkini, 25241; 642-2226.

Apiary Wants

Will place at least 2 hives in a minimum portable fenced area of 25'x25', neg., which may or may not include a portable storage shed. Bruce Johnson, 786 Isaacs Crk. Rd., Lost Creek, 26385; 745-4298; brucehj@earthwayprimitives.com.

Cattle Sales

Reg. Black Angus 7-mo. bull, calves, Sydgen & War Alliance blood, clean, grain fed, \$1,200/ea. Allen Boggs, 372 Airport Rd., Webster Springs, 26288; 847-5895.

Reg. Black Angus yrkg. & 2-yrs., AI sired, excel. EPD's, calving ease & herd bulls, \$3,000-\$4,000. Frank Bolyard, 2326 S. Mountaineer Hwy., Thornton, 26440; 672-2041; frankbolyard@aol.com.

Reg. Simmental bulls, AI sires Mo Better, Fatt Butt, Mr. Hoc Broker, Topgrade, \$2,500/up. Jim Bosley, P.O. Box 5, Old Fields, 26845; 530-6636.

Black Angus 2/15 bull, low birth rate 1, milk plus 25, \$1,200. Randall Burns, 397 Sunnybrook Dr., Hurricane, 25526; 562-6938.

Reg. Black Angus bulls & heifers, \$2,000/up. Raymond Cyrus, 5196 Malcolm Rd., Barboursville, 25504; 736-2867.

Reg. Hereford bulls, all ages, \$2,000/up. Bobby Daniel, P.O. Box 214, Fairdale, 25839; 575-7585.

Black Hereford & Black Angus cross bulls, \$1,500/up. Brian Dille, 8351 Browns Crk. Rd., Dunmore, 24934; 799-7434.

Reg. Black Angus 12-16-mo. bulls, Warhill Alliance, Connealy Courage, Break Away 302 blood, papers complete, easy handling, grain fed, \$2,500/up; 6 -10-mo. heifers, \$800/up, del. avail. Fred Edgell, 1471 Bingamon Rd., Worthington, 26591; 592-2717.

Full Black Angus 6-yr. bull, \$2,200/or trade for Black Angus bull. Jim Foster, 2798 Rose Summers Rd., New Milton, 26411; 349-4985.

Angus/ Gelbvieh Balancer 18-mo. bulls, sired by Total, \$2,500; heifers, \$1,800/up; reg. Black Angus bulls, Prophet, All In, War Party, Fruition, Complete, Game On, Total blood, \$2,500/up. John Hendrick, 4048 War Ridge Rd., Wayside, 24985; 573-5991; BJHPV-Farm@aol.com.

Reg. Black Angus yrkg. heifers, ready to breed, \$1,700/ea. Mike Hoover, 1917 Julia Rd., Renick, 24966; 497-3059.

Reg. American British White Park: 10-mo. bull calf, \$1,600; 9 10-mo. heifer calves, \$1,500, excel. disp., top genetics. Ronald Kennedy, 468 Mel Brand Rd., Morgantown, 26501; 212-8123; windy.ridge@live.com.

Reg. Polled Hereford 16-mo. bulls, \$2,000. Butch Law, 192 Ruger Dr., Harrisville, 26362; 643-4438.

Reg. Black Angus yrkg., bulls, sire is embryo transplant of SAV Pioneer & Rita Whitestone blood, calving ease, good milk/disp., tested free or no carrier ancestry of AM, CA, NH, DD, M1, D2, \$2,500. Melvin Moyers, 11779 US Hwy. 33 W, Normantown, 25267; 354-7622.

Reg. Black Angus bulls, \$2,200/up. John O'Dell, 3442 Amma Rd., Alma, 25005; 565-9851; jfodell@frontiernet.net.

Reg. Black Angus 2/11 bulls, excel. disp., has been good w/heifers, \$2,000/obo. Lacey Parsons, 8135 Fees Br. Rd., Ashton, 25503; 593-5266.

Reg. Black Angus bulls, First Rate, Gambles Safe Bet, 004, Net Worth blood, \$2,500/up. Josh Radabaugh, 1979 Big Run Rd., Alma, 26320; 270-943-0638; circlerangus528@aol.com.

Reg. Shorthorn yrkg. bull, roan, polled, \$1,300. Larry Roberts, 368 Sugar Run Rd., Littleton, 26581; 775-2787.

Pure Simmental & Sim/Angus Feb. bull calves, polled, black, calving ease, \$2,000. Leslie Rogers, 1020 Stadium Drive, St. Marys, 26170; 684-7133; leslie16@suddenlink.net.

Angus heifer calves, 2, vacc./wormed, weaned, \$700/ea. Edward Sanford, 1457 Poe Lane, Bristol, 26426; 782-1892.

Angus bull, Nichols Extra blood, low birth wts., good disp., \$3,000. Rod Summers, 98 Meadland Rd., Flemington, 26347; 842-7958; summersbunch@aol.com.

Reg. Angus 3½-yr. bull, performance tested at Wardensville, excel. disp., N Bar/Bando/Rito blood, \$2,200. Roy Woolwine, RR 2, Box 141, Elkins, 26241; 637-7234; viki.woolwine@gmail.com.

Equipment Sales

No trucks, cars, vans, campers or other autos; backhoes (except 3-pt. hitch), dozers or other construction equipment; lawn equipment; no parts.

Kubota L3400 tractor, 4 WD, hydrostatic trans., 3-cyl., diesel, ps w/Kubota LA463 front

load, 210 hrs., garage kept, cruise control, diff. lock, category 1 3-pt. hitch, \$16,500. Guy Dillon, P.O. Box 547, Fort Gay, 25514; 417-5257.

Mahindra, '08, 7520, 4 WD tractor, 550 hrs. w/7' bucket, \$20,000. Carol Dunbar, 2118 27th Ave., Parkersburg, 26101; 422-4188.

King Kutter: 3-pt., dirt/pond scoop, reversible, good cond., \$200. E. Ellison, 677 Old Court St., Fayetteville, 25840; 574-3771; after 5 p.m.

Holland transplanter, 2-seater, fast hitch, 2-row; Wisconsin hand crank w/clutch motor, both \$400/ea/firm. Harold Farnsworth, 38 Trainer Rd., Buckhannon, 26201; 472-8254.

AC 333, Not-Till, 4-row corn planter w/fert. & insecticide boxes, good cond. w/extra set of pads & 2 sets of seed disk, monitor included but not hucked up currently, \$2,500. Kent Gilkerson, Rt. 1, Box 336-A, Alderson, 24910; 646-3287.

Backhoe attachment for tractor, 3-pt hitch w/pump for PTO, no leaks on hoses or cylinder, good cond., \$3,000/obo. James Hoke, HC 83, Box 105, Union, 24983; 772-3186.

Kentucky 1, 3-roller, molasses cane mill w/pan, excel. cond., \$1,000. David Meadows, P.O. Box 132, Canvas, 26662; 872-4717.

JD 955 w/belly mower, \$9,500; 310, tedder, good cond., \$1,500; 272 grooming mower, cuts good, \$1,200. Jim Norman, 184 Lamberts Hollow Rd., Bridgeport, 26330; 672-2027.

Luck Now, 60", single auger, snow blower w/manual chute, mounts on the back of a tractor, 3-pt. hitch, PTO driven, used only twice, excel. cond., \$1,500. Gene Reynolds, 310 Varner Rd., Walker, 26180; 679-3955.

JD '14, 338 sq. baler, hyd. tongue, remote grease system, less than 1,000 bales, excel. cond., \$18,750. Steve Samples, Rt. 2, Box 200, Hurricane, 25526; 562-0482.

8N '52, tractor, all new rubber, converted to 12 volt, good cond., \$1,600. Edward Sanford, 1457 Poe Lane, Bristol, 26426; 782-1892.

Cattle Master HD squeeze chute w/auto gate, palpation cage, and no back ally stall, \$3,200. Benjamin Stout, 4749 Greenbrier Rd., Salem, 26426; 782-1444.

JD '06, 4120 diesel tractor, excel. cond., kept inside, 350 hrs., new motor installed by JD, turf tires, \$14,000. Howard Sturgeon, 1602 Highland Park Dr., Barboursville, 25504; 733-1121.

NH '09, Boomer, 30 -40 hp w/loader & 6' bucket, 4 WD, 12', 4 hyd. remote, industrial tires, 1,075 hrs., canopy, \$16,000. Ledford Turley, 283 Harless Ford Rd., Branchland, 25506; 778-7191.

Equipment Wants

JD 1A, corn sheller, single cob. Harold Farnsworth, 38 Trainer Rd., Buckhannon, 26201; 472-8254.

Farm Sales

Advertisements for land MUST be about farmland that is at least five (5) acres in size & located in West Virginia. Farmland ads MUST include accompaniments (house, barn, hayfield, garden, etc.) but no specifics, i.e., new kitchen, family room, etc. Ads for the sale or rental of farmland are acceptable from individuals, but MUST include the above. Advertisements for hunting land, commercial or city properties CANNOT be accepted.

Greenbrier Co.: 23 A. w/house, outbldgs., 10 A meadow, woods, located in Kieffer, 15 min. from I-64, \$135,000. Don Osborne, 598 Rockcliff Rd., Crawley, 24931; 392-6607; don-osborne1952@gmail.com.

Jackson Co.: 34 A. w/house, woods, pasture, natural springs, fenced, all utilities avail., Sandyville area, \$200,000. Shirley Rhodes, 8381 Parkersburg Rd., Sandyville, 25275; 273-5622.

Putnam Co.: 20 A. w/house, goat/sheep barn, pasture, livestock pond, woods, chicken yard, gardens, \$179,000. Sandy Zappia, 1007 Riffe Ridge, Given, 25245; 586-4133.

10TH ANNUAL GENETIC PARTNERS CLUB PIG SALE

April 9
WVU Reedsville Farm
Reedsville, WV
Dave Hardesty, 698-9206.

Goat Sales

Reg. Dwarf Nigerian bucklings, tri-color, blue & couclair brown eyed, \$175-\$250, both disbudded w/CD&T. Carol Burns, 138 Beulah Hill Rd., Elizabeth, 26143; 275-1122.

Oberhasli dairy, bucklings/doelings & occasionally adults, great milk genetics, \$250/up. Michelle Liga, 4140 Dogtown Rd., Kingwood, 26537; 698-9231; oberhasligirl@atlanticbb.net.

Boer wethers & doeling for your 4H & FFA projects, clean herd, proven champions, \$200/up. M. Maxwell, 97 Old Lock 12 Rd., Morgantown, WV 26501; 983-8584.

Pure Boer billy w/papers, \$400; boer, %50 nannies, \$125. Richard Raines, Rt. 1, Box 106, Peterstown, 24963; 887-0418.

Alpine: bucklings; \$150; wethers, \$100, can be ADGA reg., parents on site. Leah Snow, HC 60, Box 231A, New Martinsville, 26155; 455-3998.

Hog Sales

Shoats 6, \$100/ea. Glen Adkins, 48 Wheatley Branch Rd., Chapmanville, 25508; 855-5270.

Horse Sales

AQHA 3-yr. mare, sorrel, Peppy Sandbagger/Doc's Prescription blood, \$1,200. Carl Baker, 1216 Long Hollow Rd., Letart 25253; 895-3843.

Palomino Qtr. 5-yr. gelding, broke, \$1,300; Qtr., 3-yr. stud colt, sorrel; Grulla Qtr 3-yr. stud, both green broke, \$800/ea. Clarence Fiber, P.O. Box 297, Flemington, 26347; 672-2258.

Stud jack, black, 15h, \$500. D. Hanline, 232 Post Rd., Buckhannon, 26201; 473-1554.

Tenn. Wlkr. mare, bay w/no markings, 15.3h, now being trail ridden, has excel. papers, \$1,500; other top bred mares, \$1,000/up; stud service, \$150. Bill Harper, 513 Kentuck Rd., Kenna, 25248; 372-4179.

Job Sales

Horse boarding, excel. home for retired show horse or trail rider, indoor arena, pasture turnout, stalls cleaned daily, regularly scheduled farrier, vet, dentals, worming, owners on premises, \$375/mo. LeDonna Clemmer, 3928 New Hope Rd., Elkview, 25071; 610-0476; lclemmer@suddenlink.net.

Horse boarding, \$350/mo. Kimberly D'Arco, 194 Homestead Lane, Charleston, 25312; 984-0950.

Plant Sales

No medicinal plants, nursery stock, common agricultural seeds unless tested for germination.

Tobacco seed: W.Va. Mtn. grown burly, organic, germination tested, incl. growing instruction, \$4/tsp. \$6/2 tsps. \$8/3 tsps.; all **plus** first class SASE. Bill Hailer, 2031 Hiner Mill Rd., Sugar Grove, 26815.

Seed: pole bean, blood bean, black & purple lins, lg. bird egg, Kentucky fall, speckled Christmas limas & more, \$12/100 seeds, all ppd. Scott Whitacre, P.O. Box 56, Bloomery, 26817; 496-8665.

Poultry Sales

No ornamental, wild or game birds; eggs.

Geese, guineas & ducks, all varieties, \$6/up. George Vance, 52 Nottingham Dr., Petersburg, 26847; 257-2099.

USDA requires that cattle be officially identified before crossing state lines

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) rule states that effective March 11, cattle moved across state lines are required to be officially identified and accompanied by an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI). Cattle affected by this rule include: sexually-intact beef cattle over 18 months of age, all dairy cattle, and all cattle being moved for shows, rodeos or other exhibitions.

Current exemptions to the rule include beef cattle under 18 months of age and cattle moving directly to a recognized slaughter establishment.

Official identification is an official ear tag. This can be either a metal NUES "brite" tag or a tag that bears a 15 digit identification number beginning with 840. The ear tag must also have the official ear tag shield imprinted on it. In order to purchase official ID tags, cattle owners must have a premise identification number.

For more information, contact Jayme Zirkle at jzirkle@wvda.us or 304-644-7361. For information on a Premise ID Number (PIN) contact Shelly Lantz at 304-558-2214.

Apiary Events

Barbour Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 4th Thursday, 7 p.m.
 Barbour Co. Extension Office
 2 mi. south of Philippi on Rt. 250
 Contact David Proudfoot 823-1460;
dp-foot@hotmail.com.

Central W.Va. Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 1st Monday
 Braxton Co. High School, Vo-Ag Rm.
 Contact Susan Bullion, 452-8508;
billandsuebullion@frontiernet.net.

Cabell/Wayne Beekeepers Assoc.
Bi-Monthly Meeting
 2nd Monday
 Christ Temple Church
 2400 Johnstown Road, Huntington, W.Va.
 Contact Gabe Blatt, 429-1268.

Clay Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Bi-Monthly Meeting
 2nd Monday
 Buffalo Valley Baptist Church
 Clay, WV
 Contact Tim Clifton, 548-3024
tclifton@penn.com.

Corridor G Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m.
 Chapmanville Middle School
 Chapmanville, WV
 Contact Tony Meadows, 524-7690
Fastrakhounds@outlook.com.

Gilmer Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 3rd Tuesday, 6 p.m.
 Gilmer Co. Public Library
 Glenville, W.Va.
 Contact Bobbi Cottrill, 462-7416;
bcottrill119@hotmail.com.

Poultry Wants

White Holland turkey poult or hens. Rodney Riddle, 3 Bragg Run Rd., Cowen, 26206; 226-5009.

Sheep Sales

Hamp. 11-mo. ram, proven breeder, halter broke, club lamb blood, \$400. Justin McClain, 2853 Dry Fork Rd., Salem, 26426; 782-3983.

Pure Suffolk ram, proven breeder, \$250. James Williams, P.O. Box 1, Clear Creek, 25044; 890-4572.

Miscellaneous Sales

No riding habits or other clothes; appliances or furniture; antiques or crafts; hand power tools or equipment; food processing or preservation items or equipment; general wood working tools; firewood. Only dogs recognized by the AKC as herding or working can be accepted.

Saddle, Simco w/memory foam seat, excel. cond., \$500. Glen Adkins, 48 Wheatley Branch Rd., Chapmanville, 25508; 855-5270.

Hay, fresh cut, \$3.50/bale; 4x5 round bales, \$35/bale, del. avail. Ray Blake, 1400 Johnson Ave., Ste. 1A, Bridgeport, 26330; 842-2795.

Hay, '15, 4x5, round bales, never wet, barn kept, \$40/bale. Bernard Bragg, 164 McCurdysville Pike, Rivesville, 26588; 278-7346.

Aust. Shep. 15-mo. female, tri-color, \$150. Eileen Brown, 3076 Gatewood Rd., Fayetteville, 25840; 465-5072.

Hay, Straw & oat, \$4/bale. Clayton Christopher, 118 Bovine Dr., Albright, 26519; 379-6741.

Acreage: Jackson Co., 12.44 A., Dexter Dr., \$22,500. Oscar Click, 150 Kensley Durst Rd., Leon, 25123; 593-1974; oeclick50@gmail.com.

Eggs, brown, \$2/dz. Jerry Cornell, 132 Cornell Dr., Apple Grove, 25502; 576-2785.

Aust. Shep. 9/15 pups, blue merles & black

Cabell/Wayne Beekeepers Assoc.
Bi-Monthly Meeting
 2nd Monday, 7 p.m.
 Christ Temple Church.
 2400 Johnstown Rd. Huntington, W.Va.
 Contact Gabe Blatt, 429-1268.

Highlands Apicultural Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 4th Monday, 6:30 p.m.
 WVU Ext. Office Meeting Rm.
 Elkins, W.Va.
 Contact Ben McKean, 227-4414;
hiapas@yahoo.com.

Jackson Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Bi-Monthly Meeting
 McDonalds Bldg., Jackson Co. Fairgrounds
 Cottageville, W.Va.
 Contact Jeff Crum, 531-0018
jefcrum@yahoo.com.

Kanawha Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Annual Christmas
 Dec. 19, 10 a.m.
 St. Albans Library, St. Albans, W.Va.
 bring a generic gift, \$5/under for exchange
 Contact Steve May, 727-7659;
kanawhavalley.beekeepers@yahoo.com.

Marion Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 4th Thursday, 7 p.m.
 Pleasant Valley Municipal Bldg.
 2340 Kingmont Rd.
 Fairmont, W.Va.
 Contact Amy Kaiser, 669-4836;
 Nancy Postlethwait, 366-9938
lpostlethwait@yahoo.com.

Mercer Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 First Monday, 7 p.m.
 Princeton, W.Va.
 Contact Bill Cockerman, 425-6389.
blackoak85@gmail.com.

tri, \$325/up. Lee DePolo, P.O. Box 4610, Bridgeport, 26330; 842-3535.

Platform scales, Detecto, floor model w/wts. for weighing seed, \$200. Harold Farnsworth, 38 Trainer Rd., Buckhannon, 26201; 472-854.

Saddle, Western, 15", \$200. Tammy Hagey, 3369 Somerville Fork Rd., Palestine, 26160; 275-0042.

Fish for stocking: Rainbow Trout, \$4/lb., Bass, 3"-4", \$1.00; bluegill, 3"-5" & catfish, 4"-7, 50¢, hybrid bluegill, 3"-5", 50¢; goldfish, 4"-6", \$1; minnows, \$12/lb.; shiners 13 lb. grass carp, 9"-13", \$12; koi, 5"-7", \$7, del. avail. Fred Hays, P.O. Box 241, Elkview, 25070; 415-7617.

Pioneer equip. sled w/tongue, dbl. tree, neck & jockey yoke, excel. cond., \$800. Ronnie Lanier, 5386 Allen Fork Rd., Charleston, 25320; 932-5979.

Greenhouse, Nexus, 58'x70', gutter connect, heavy duty, \$6,000. Phillip Lowe, P.O. Box 579, Shepherdstown, 25443; 671-8758.

Nursery hoops, idea for constructing high turner, 12x100' or less, \$10/ea. Wayne McBee, 1848 Stewarts Run Rd., Philippi, 26414; 457-2382.

Hay, 5x4 round bales, easy load out of barn storage, never wet, barn kept, \$25/bale. Charles McCagg, 704 Upper Gragston Crk. Rd., Prichard, 25555; 486-5673.

Acreage: Lewis Co., 60 A., recently surveyed, crk., 15-20 A. hayfield, woods, partial minerals convey, \$120,000. Brittany Moody, 2616 Big Run Rd., Walkersville, 26447; 940-3850.

Acreage: Greenbrier Co., 73 A., 35+ A. meadowland, woods, located in Kieffer, 15 min. from I-64, \$143,000. Don Osborne, 5928 Rockcliff Rd., Crawley, 24931; 392-6607; donoosborne1952@gmail.com.

Hay, sq. bales, never wet, mixed grasses, easy access, \$4/bale. Larry Parsons, 276 Maple Dr., Evans, 25241; 372-4575.

Mountaineer Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m.
 Ritchie Co. Public Library
 Harrisville, W.Va.
 Contact Shanda King, 643-2443.
wvakinings@yahoo.com.

Nicholas Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 3rd Monday, 7 p.m.
 Summersville Public Library
 Summersville, W.Va.
 Contact David Brammer, 619-0189
cdbrammer@frontier.com.

North Central W.Va. Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 Third Monday, 7 p.m.
 Harrison Co. 4-H Center
 Clarksburg, W.Va.
 Contact Michael Staddon, 782-9610.

Potomac Highlands Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 3rd Thursday
 Bank of Romney Comm. Center
 Romney, W.Va.
 Contact Elvin Rose, 434-2520;
emrose0206@yahoo.com or
potomachighlandsbeekeepers.weebly.com

Preston Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m.
 Preston Co. Ext. Office
 Contact Don Cathell, 454-9695.

Southeastern Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 2nd Thursday, 7 p.m.
 Osteopathic School-Alumni Center
 Lewisburg, W.Va.
 Contact Mary Holesapple, 772-3272;
mary.holesapple@frontier.com.

Raw honey, \$9/pt., \$16/qt.; apple butter made with WV apples: regular, \$5/pt., \$8/qt, sugar free, \$6/pt., \$9/qt.; sorghum molasses, \$5/pt. Russell Prichard, P.O. Box 348, Barboursville, 25504; 416-2056.

Rabbits, Lionhead, \$20/ea.; New Zealand crosses, lg. breed, \$15/ea. Melissa Reed, 482 Stormy Weather Lane, Philippi, 26416; 457-3459.

Hay, '15, extra lg. sq. bales, never wet, excel. quality, \$5/bale. Rex Reed, 482 Stormy Weather Lane, Philippi, 26416; 457-3459.

Hay, Fairmont-Grafton area, round bales, stored in barn, never wet, orchard/clover/timothy, excel. for horses, fields limed/fertilized, easy access, will load; 1st cut, \$40/roll. Leslie Rogers, 1020 Stadium Drive, St. Marys, 26170; 684-7133; leslie16@suddenlink.net

Aussie pups, \$150-\$200/ea. Rebecca Saylor, 316 WPA Rd., Walker, 26180; 679-3670.

Hay, sq. bales, 1st cut, stored in barn, \$4/bale. Lou Schmidt, 380 Crystal Spring Rd., Sa-

LOCAL FOODS DAY AT THE LEGISLATURE

Jan. 26, Speak to your Legislators
 7:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.
 State Capitol
 Luncheon 12-3:30 p.m.
 University of Charleston
 Charleston, WV

15TH ANNUAL BEE EXPO

Jan. 30
 WVU Campus
 Parkersburg, WV
 Cost: \$20 if pre-registered by Jan. 13 or \$25 at the door
 Keynote Speaker, Stephen Repasky
 Contact MOVBA, 372-1883.

Tri-State Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m.
 Good Zoo Bldg. - Oglebay Park
 Wheeling, W.Va.
 Contact Steve Roth, 242-9867;
sroth29201@comcast.net.

Upshur Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
 W.Va. Farm Bureau Bldg.
 Buckhannon, W.Va.
 Contact Delmuth Kelley, 472-0184.

West Central Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 4th Saturday, 1 p.m.
 Roane Co. Committee on Aging Bldg.
 Spencer, W.Va.
 Contact Dale Cunningham, 354-6916;
janingham46@yahoo.com.

WV Beekeepers Assoc.
Monthly Meeting
 Nov. 7, 10 a.m.
 79er Restaurant
 Burnsville, W.Va.
 Contact Paul Cappas, 291-0608;
paulcappas65@yahoo.com.



*To place advertisements in
 The Market Bulletin by phone,
 call 304-558-2225.*

lem, 26426; 783-4836.

Hay, 4x5 round bales, kept inside, '15, \$40/bale; '14, \$35/bale. Walter Stalnaker, 915 Grass Run Rd., Weston, 26452; 269-2345.

Hay, sq. bales, \$2.25/ea. Kathy Wayman, 311 Cluke Dr., Proctor, 26055; 455-1720.

Hay, lg. sq. bales, 1st cut, \$2.50/bale; 2nd cut, \$3/bale. Paul Wells, 1814 Oil Ridge Rd., Sistersville, 26175; 652-6031.

Hand spinning fleece, white & natural colors, Shetland, Border Leicester, Horned Dorset/Shetland, \$10/lb./+/-; spinning wheel, Ashford traditional w/jumbo flyer unit & 5/extra lg. bobbins, \$450. Linda Zinn, 2162 Skelton Run, Wallace, 26448; 782-3704.

Miscellaneous Wants

Want to lease farmland in Harrison, Lewis, Upshur, Barbour, Taylor, Preston, Tucker or Grant Co. to place beehives upon, 5 A. minimum required. Bruce Johnson, 786 Isaacs Crk. Rd., Lost Creek, 26385; 745-4298.

**Complimentary
 Farm Record & Day Journal
 Calendars Available!**

Contact 304-558-3708

USDA Announces Funding Available for Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Programs

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack recently announced the availability of \$17.6 million in funding to support research and outreach activities that will help growers, producers, and processors find innovative ways to improve organic agriculture. The grants are being funded through the Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI), a program that is administered by USDA's National Institutes of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill.

"Over the past six years, USDA has strengthened programs that support organic producers as they grow, thrive and respond to increasing consumer demand for organic products," said Secretary Vilsack. "The projects funded through the Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative will help identify innovative solutions to critical challenges facing organic agriculture, ultimately strengthening local markets, improving rural economies and expanding access to healthy food for Americans."

The purpose of the OREI program is to fund high-priority research, education, and extension projects that enhance the ability of producers and processors who have already adopted organic standards to grow and market high quality organic

products. Priority concerns include biological, physical, and social sciences, including economics. Past projects include a project at Washington State University to document the ecological role of wild birds on vegetable farmers, providing owners with practical, science-based recommendations for wild-bird management, and a project a joint project between Pennsylvania State University, Delaware State University, and the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore to predict benefits and costs of cover crop mixtures in the context of regional climate, soil and management variability; empower organic farmers to use mixtures to meet their farm-specific goals; and to integrate this research into undergraduate organic education to further prepare the next generation of growers and researchers.

Funded projects will aid farmers and ranchers with whole farm planning by delivering practical research-based information and will improve the ability for growers to develop the Organic System Plan required for certification.

OREI has eight legislatively-defined goals:

- Facilitating the development and improvement of organic agriculture production, breeding, and processing methods

- Evaluating the potential economic benefits of organic agricultural production and methods to producers, processors and rural communities
- Exploring international trade opportunities for organically grown and processed agricultural commodities
- Determining desirable traits for organic commodities
- Identifying marketing and policy constraints on the expansion of organic agriculture.
- Conducting advanced on-farm research and development that emphasizes observation of, experimentation with, and innovation for working organic farms, including research relating to production, marketing, food safety, socioeconomic conditions, and farm business management
- Examining optimal conservation and environmental outcomes relating to organically produced agricultural products
- Developing new and improved seed varieties that are particularly suited for organic agriculture

Applications are due March 10, 2016. Please see the request for applications for specific program requirements.

USDA Begins 49th Enrollment Period for the Conservation Reserve Program

The next general enrollment period for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) began Dec. 1, 2015, and ends on Feb. 26, 2016. December 2015 also marks the 30th anniversary of CRP, a federally funded program that assists agricultural producers with the cost of restoring, enhancing and protecting certain grasses, shrubs and trees to improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and reduce loss of wildlife habitat.

As of September 2015, 24.2 million acres were enrolled in CRP. CRP also is protecting more than 170,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers, enough to go around the world 7 times. For an interactive tour of CRP success stories from across the U.S., visit www.fsa.usda.gov/CRPis30, or follow on Twitter at #CRPis30.

Participants in CRP establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees (known as "covers") to control soil erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat on marginally productive agricultural lands. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. At times when commodity prices are low, enrolling sensitive lands in CRP can be especially attractive to farmers and ranchers, as it softens the economic hardship for landowners at the same time that it provides ecological benefits. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years. The long-term goal of the program is to re-establish native plant species on marginal agricultural lands for the primary purpose of preventing soil erosion and improving water quality and related benefits of reducing loss of wildlife habitat.

Contracts on 1.64 million acres of CRP are set to expire on Sept. 30, 2016. Producers with expiring contracts or producers with environmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options under CRP.

Since it was established on Dec. 23, 1985, CRP has:

- Prevented more than 9 billion tons of soil from eroding, enough soil to fill 600 million dump trucks;
- Reduced nitrogen and phosphorous runoff relative to annually tilled cropland by 95 and 85 percent respectively;
- Sequestered an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases, equal to taking 9 million cars off the road.

Since 1996, CRP has created nearly 2.7 million acres of restored wetlands.

For more information FSA conservation programs, visit a local FSA office or www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

2016 WV Equine Events Calendar

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture publishes a statewide Equine Events Calendar during the show season. To list your club or organization's event(s), please fill out the listing form and return it by February 10, 2016. Any entries received after the deadline will not appear in the Equine Events Calendar. This deadline will ensure calendar availability by April 1.

Only one event listing per form; if additional forms are necessary, please duplicate. Fill listing form out completely (we must have a complete and accurate address and telephone number). Only the name of the contact person and phone number will be published. **All event listings must be held in WV, unless the event is sponsored by a WV Equine Organization. (PLEASE PRINT)**

Date: _____ Time: _____

Event: _____

Sponsor: _____

Place/Location: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Note: If your event date or location changes please notify us at 304.558.2210 at least 60 days in advance, so the correct information will appear in the appropriate issue of the Market Bulletin.

Return by February 10, 2016 to:

West Virginia Dept. of Agriculture, Tracy Fitzsimmons, Livestock Marketing Specialist
Marketing & Development Division, 1900 Kanawha Blvd., East, Charleston, WV 25305-0178

www.agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/marketinganddevelopment/Documents/Equine_Form_Fields_Save.pdf

304.558.2210; Fax: 304.558.2270; tfitzsimmons@wvda.us