Regional Meet the Candidates Cookout slated for September

Tyler County Farm Bureau is hosting a “Meet, Greet and Eat” cookout at the Tyler County Fairgrounds log building on Saturday, September 13, beginning at 5 pm.

Attendees will hear from a number of candidates running for statewide and local offices. Folks are asked to bring a chair and a covered dish to share.

Farm Bureau staff will be on hand to man the grill. Meat, drinks and tableware will be provided.

Come on out and learn about your candidates’ stances on issues important to all of us. Make an informed choice at the polls!

For more information, contact Tyler County FB President David Ash at 540-809-9134.

Quilt & Gun Raffle helps Women’s Leadership Too

The drawing we told you about last month benefits Women’s Leadership Committee programs as well as the Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee.

Don’t miss your chance to be the winner of either a Remington 870 shotgun or this beautiful handmade quilt, featuring a colorful assortment of tractors.

Drawing will be held at the WVFB Annual Meeting in November. Tickets can be obtained from Eric Thomason, Field Services Representative, or any YF&R or WLC member. For more info call 800-398-4630 x. 309.
**table of contents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Presidential Paradigms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Include GPS When Insuring Equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Proposed EPA Regulations Could Impact Farmers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>WVU Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>WVFB Welcomes New Ag Lab Asst Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Constructing a Homemade Tire Trough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Farmers Markets Grow, Adapt to Changing Needs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**On the cover**

*Fair Time!*

Joan Harman
Immigration Laws Should Be Enforced

Charles Wilfong, President, West Virginia Farm Bureau

Throughout history, countries failing to control their borders failed to survive. An invasion is currently taking place on the U.S. - Mexican border, and nothing is being done to stop it.

The Obama administration is refusing to enforce U.S. border security laws. The consequences could be devastating. Many fear that the huge numbers of illegal immigrants crossing into the U.S. will, among other things, become voters who will perpetuate the welfare state mentality that is becoming more and more prevalent in our country.

The president’s executive orders are creating much of the current problem. In 2012, he issued the “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals”, which delayed any enforcement action against underage illegal immigrants. This act, coupled with the perception of possible amnesty, has prompted the flood of children across our borders. Alarming, significant numbers of these children are believed to be gang members. These gangs are reportedly extorting money from the families of innocent children illegally crossing the border. In addition, border agents are sidelined from performing their jobs as they must supervise these children once they are taken into custody. There is also great concern that other unwanted individuals are also crossing into the U.S. - terrorists, drug runners and other criminals - making this a real national security issue.

Additionally, busloads of these illegal immigrants are being sent, unannounced, all over the country to communities ill equipped to handle the financial burden. Health concerns are also being raised, as reports of people infected with tuberculosis and other communicable diseases leak out to the media.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill on August 1 to help address this issue. The bill would freeze see Wilfong, page 21

Setting the Record Straight on ‘Waters of the U.S.’

Bob Stallman, President, American Farm Bureau Federation

Americans expect straight talk from their government. If our government says something, you ought to be able to take it to the bank, as the saying goes.

The Environmental Protection Agency is not meeting that expectation. Instead of making things clear when it comes to how the proposed “Waters of the U.S.” rule would affect farmers and other landowners, the EPA is muddying the waters.

It’s Complicated

Two Supreme Court rulings have limited EPA’s and the Corps of Engineers’ authority under the Clean Water Act to waters that are navigable or have a “significant nexus” to navigable waters. EPA claims the rulings “complicated” the permitting process. The reality is not all that complicated: The agencies dislike the rulings and are simply trying to write regulations that allow them to do what the Supreme Court has said they cannot do—regulate nearly all waters.

EPA has said that it only wants to bring “clarity and consistency” to the process. That sounds reasonable. Good talking point. The only problem is the statement does not reflect what is in the proposed rule. The regulation will automatically regulate countless small and remote so-called “waters” that are usually dry and, in fact, look like land to you and me. This is far more than a “clarification.” It is a dramatic expansion of federal power. Expanding the federal government’s jurisdiction under the guise of bringing clarity and consistency to the process is the opposite of straight talk.

see Stallman, page 21
Something to Think About

Don Michael, WVFB Director of Governmental Affairs

Agricultural Education continues to be a driving force in preparing students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in our global agricultural industry. The program is on the move in West Virginia, as can be evidenced by the growing number of counties offering state-of-the-art instructional programs. Another indicator of growth and success is a statewide FFA membership exceeding five thousand, with members winning honors on all levels of the program, including national FFA proficiency award winners and the state’s first National FFA Officer in nearly 40 years.

Recently 800+ FFA members, agriculture teachers/FFA advisors, program donors and guests converged on Cedar Lakes for the 86th Annual State FFA Convention and Leadership Conference. Keynote speakers included Agriculture Commissioner Walt Helmick, State Treasurer John Perdue and “West Virginia’s Home Grown” National FFA Vice President Wes Davis from Mason County. Farm Bureau was visible on numerous fronts: providing a plaque and $500 to Max McCoy of Ravenswood, West Virginia’s Star Farmer for 2014; joining other ag entities to host a special event to reward FFA members for breaking the 5000 membership mark for the first time in over two decades; and assisting with expenses for the tractor driving career development event. Clyde Bailey, Kanawha County FB member and WVFB board member, manned Farm Bureau’s “Ditch the Rule” exhibit at a career show featured on day three of convention.

Past State FFA Presidents were highly visible at the FFA Foundation’s annual auction held in conjunction with convention. The auction generated in excess of $8,000 with the proceeds being invested to generate awards and scholarships for FFA members. Past presidents digging into their pockets to make a positive difference for FFA members included David Bourgeois (Ripley, 1976-77), Jim Eisentrouth (Bruceton Mills, 1979-80), John Lockhart (Taylor County, 2010-11), Kevin Okes (Shady Spring, 1996-97) and Nathan Taylor (Ravenswood, 2001-02). The big check written during the night came from Past State FFA Vice President Bill West (Cameron, 1967-68) and was in addition to the $8,000 auction sales. After three items dedicated to the Foundation’s Ag Ed Scholarship Fund were auctioned, Mr. West inquired what it would now take to endow the fund so it would permanently provide the annual scholarship. When told the amount needed was $9,536 Bill handed the Foundation treasurer a signed, blank check and said, “Fill’er in!” That is one powerful commitment to the Agricultural Education program in West Virginia!! Farm Bureau thanks the auction supporters and the many other annual donors on the local, state and national levels who continue to open doors to opportunity for young men and women in the blue and gold jackets. Special thanks, too, is directed at John and Jenny Jones of Mineral Wells for their generous donation of time, talents and resources over the years in providing auctioneering services at numerous events generating support for FFA and 4-H members in our state.

Speaking of Agricultural Education, Farm Bureau commends the leadership of the West Virginia Association of Agricultural Educators and Joint Staff for conducting their recent summer retreat at Canaan Valley. The event featured an enlightening program, with quality time set aside for fellowship among the approximately 80 in attendance. One evening was dedicated to retirees, with 17 retirees and 11 spouses participating. The seventeen “Oldies but Goodies” as one spouse described them, represented 883 years of service to Agricultural Education and FFA. Retirees ranged from the most recent, Paul Roomsburg of Hampshire County to Bayard Swecker of Harman, who is 92 years young! As retirees shared tidbits from their teaching experience and answered questions posed by active teachers, all were reminded of the fun, excitement and wonderful blessings associated with teaching students preparing for careers in our dynamic industry of agriculture. It was quite obvious the retirees treasured the close comradery that has existed among agriculture teachers and staff over the years – truly priceless! Until next time, KEEP SMILING FRIENDS, God bless you and your loved ones, and God bless America.
Include GPS Systems When Insuring Equipment

We’ve written before about the importance of insuring your homes and farm buildings to their current values, but it’s just as important for farmers and ranchers to also have their equipment insured to an adequate value. When making sure your equipment limit on your farm insurance policy is adequate, here are several things to consider.

Equipment values vary as the demand for used equipment ebbs and flows in your area of the country, as well as with the usage and maintenance performed on the equipment. Because of this fluctuation, the purchase price of the equipment may not be the current value. Without adjusting for this change in equipment markets, you could find yourself under-insured when a loss occurs.

Farm and ranch operations are also utilizing more and more technology. The Nationwide® Agribusiness AgriChoice® farm policy can include coverage for Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment. If a piece of equipment has permanently attached GPS components, the value of these components needs should be included in the value of the equipment.

If GPS components are portable, such as a display that can move from unit to unit, these also should be included either as an individually scheduled farm personal property item or as part of your farm personal property blanket. GPS activation fees may also be associated with these items. The value of the activation fees should also be insured.

Keep in mind, the value of GPS components and their activation fees can increase the value of equipment quickly. Having these values accounted for in your insurance limits will help to make sure you aren’t surprised at the time of a loss and are able to get back to normal operations as quickly as possible.

To find a local farm agent, visit http://www.farmagentfinder.com/
Whether you’re growing corn or cucumbers, building a home or a barn, you owe it to yourself to work with a lender who understands your needs.

Give us a call today to find out more about how we can help you keep growing.
Susan Wilkins, YF&R Chair

I always enjoy the State Fair of West Virginia. But probably not for any of the reasons one would think. Last year, for instance, I didn’t see a single concert, ride any rides, buy a cinnamon bun, or even spend much time in the barns. No, my State Fair enjoyment centers solely on ice cream. You see, for the last several years, I have helped the Maxwelton Ruritan Club sell ice cream in their stand beside the Dairy Barn.

I like selling ice cream for three main reasons. First of all, rarely do mean or rude people eat ice cream. (Perhaps I should include a disclaimer here that this statement is not scientifically proven!) And, in my experience, if a customer starts out mean or rude when they order, by the time they get an oversized, hand dipped cone of Rocky Road, Moosetracks or Butter Pecan, their rudeness melts away. My favorite customers are the kids whose eyes light up like it’s Christmas morning when I hand them a cone. The second reason I like selling ice cream is the sampling. After all, a shift lasts between 6 and 7 hours. A person has to eat something during that time and plus, when a customer asks for a recommendation on ice cream flavors, I need to be able to honestly tell them!

And the third reason is the questions I get to answer. Being located so near the cattle barns, I’ve answered questions like “What cow in the barn did this ice cream come from?” “Does the chocolate ice cream come from a brown cow?” “Is this ice cream made from milk?” Sometimes the questions can be a little crazy, but it is one more way I can help promote agriculture. People are often intimidated when they think about being an advocate for this industry, but if you can incorporate it into something you’re already doing, it makes it a lot easier! So I challenge you to find just small little ways that you can speak up for farming in the future.

Another State Fair has come and gone, and with it, our summer begins to wind to a close. The Annual Meeting will soon be upon us and the Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee will again be holding our Discussion Meet, Excellence in Ag, and Achievement Award contests. State winners of each contest will receive a trip to the 2015 AFBF Annual Convention in San Diego, California to compete for Chevy/GMC trucks, Case IH tractors, Stihl chainsaws, and cash.

We encourage any young farmer between the ages of 18 and 35 to enter one of these contests. All county presidents were mailed nomination forms earlier in the spring to nominate young farmers in their county. West Virginia is filled with outstanding young people who we would like to recognize for their achievements. Please help us spread the word! Applications are available from Eric Thomason in the State Office. The deadline to apply is September 30, 2014.
Sparkling with 7 Genuine Diamonds to Celebrate the Qualities of Your Daughter

Finely hand-crafted with sterling silver plating

A Dazzling Expression of Love
Beautiful and loving, your daughter and all her unique qualities make each day special. Celebrate your daughter with the “All That You Are” Daughter Diamond Bracelet—a meaningful jewelry keepsake that is sure to bring her joy every time she wears it.

Hand-Crafted Genuine Diamonds and Personalized with Her Name
Custom designed and finely hand-crafted, this bracelet features seven diamonds set between wave-shaped links plated in sterling silver. Each link is interwoven around a genuine diamond and engraved with qualities that express your special daughter: Loving, Beautiful, Caring, Wonderful, Precious, Unique and Cherished—for a total of 7 diamonds! For an extra special touch, a delicate heart charm at the end of the bracelet can be personalized with your daughter’s name, creating a beautiful celebration of the love you and your daughter share. The bracelet is adjustable from 7” to 8” to fit most wrists.

Exquisite craftsmanship … Exceptional Value
A remarkable value at $99, the bracelet is payable in 4 installments of just $24.75 and is backed by our unconditional 120-day guarantee. It arrives in a velvet jewelry pouch and gift box along with a Certificate of Authenticity and meaningful sentiment card.

Free Personalization
©2013 BGE
01-14580-001-BI

Arrives in a velvet pouch and gift box along with a Certificate of Authenticity and meaningful sentiment card

A Fine Jewelry Exclusive from The Bradford Exchange

Limited-Time Offer
Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Respond as soon as possible to reserve your “All That You Are” Daughter Diamond Bracelet.

YES. Please reserve the “All That You Are” Daughter Diamond Bracelet for me with the name indicated below.
Limited to 1 name, max of 8 characters.

NAME:

Mrs. Mr. Ms.

Address

City State Zip

E-Mail (Optional)

P.O. Box 806, Morton Grove, IL 60053-0806
Sales subject to product availability and order acceptance.

*Plus $9.98 shipping and service. Please allow 4-6 weeks after initial payment for shipment of your jewelry.

Send no money now; just mail the Reservation Application. This limited-time offer is only available from The Bradford Exchange. Order today!

www.bradfordexchange.com/14580
BECAUSE HARD WORK HAS ITS BENEFITS.

PRESENTING A PRIVATE OFFER FOR FARM BUREAU MEMBERS

$500
ON TOP OF MOST CURRENT OFFERS

You invest your business’ trust in us, so we’re giving loyal Farm Bureau members like you the ultimate return on investment: $500 toward the purchase or lease of nearly any new Chevy vehicle—from Equinox to Express! Plus, if you’re a business owner, purchase or lease any eligible Chevrolet truck or van for business use through GM Business Choice and receive even more great benefits, like a gift card or cash allowances toward vehicle accessories or upfitting.

Claim your $500 Farm Bureau authorization number at fbverify.com/gm and visit gmbusinesschoice.com for Business Choice details.

Offer available through 4/1/17. Available on all 2014 and 2015 Chevrolet, Buick and GMC vehicles. This offer available with all other offers, excluding discounted pricing (employee, dealership employee and supplier pricing). Only customers who have been active members of an eligible Farm Bureau for a minimum of 30 days will be eligible to receive a certificate. Customers can obtain certificates at fbverify.com/gm. Farm Bureau and the FB logo are registered service marks of the American Farm Bureau Federation and are used herein under license by General Motors.

MARTINSBURG
APPLE VALLEY CHEVROLET
888-701-5680
www.applevalleychevy.com

OAK HILL
KING COAL CHEVROLET CO.
877-852-6186
kingcoalchevy.com

PRINCETON
RAMNEY CHEVY PRINCETON
304-425-2134
www.rameycars.com

RANSON
GUY’S BUICK-GMC, INC.
800-401-5459
www.guysgmc.com

Quality for Generations
For over 110 years, Morton Buildings has provided dependable products and exceptional service. At Morton, we oversee every aspect of your project to ensure it results in a quality building that you can be proud to own. From garages and horse barns to machine storage and farm shops, Morton Buildings takes your project from concept through completion and stands behind it with the strongest, non-prorated warranty in the industry.


Enter to win a Morton building and more!
Visit our website to find out details & prizes.

606-324-9745
2520 State Route 5 • Ashland, KY
740-783-2331
40800 Marietta Rd • Caldwell, OH
724-542-7930
615 Valley Kitchen Dr • Mt Pleasant, PA
717-624-3331
3360 York Rd • Gettysburg, PA
800-447-7436 • mortonbuildings.com
Since being elected your Attorney General in 2012, I have spent countless hours fighting to protect West Virginians from federal overreach. As the chief legal officer for our State, the Attorney General’s Office has made it a top priority to review every line of every page of federal mandates aimed at the hard-working people of West Virginia.

The Environmental Protection Agency has set its sights again on West Virginia. Its latest proposed rule redefines the scope of the Clean Water Act and will hurt businesses across our State, especially the farming community.

Under the Clean Water Act, the EPA has regulatory authority over the nation’s “navigable waters,” known as “Waters of the United States.” The proposed rule, however, imposes unnecessary and ambiguous regulations over millions of acres of water and land that the state has traditionally regulated, and which arguably have no impact on navigable waters.

The waters and lands swept up by EPA’s overreach could possibly be on your land at this very moment. The proposed rule treats puddles or even small ditches as subject to EPA regulation, resulting in landowners having to get expensive permits or face substantial fines and enforcement actions.

The proposed rules will have little to no benefits to farmers, ranchers, landowners, and agriculture as a whole, but will impose endless paperwork and bureaucratic obstacles on farmers. And if a farmer makes a single mistake, perhaps not realizing that his land is subject to the Act’s permit requirements, he could be subject to thousands of dollars in fines and legal expenses.

This is why the Attorney General’s Office has taken great interest in working with farmers across West Virginia. The cost of this regulation on the farming community of West Virginia is simply unacceptable.

Our Office will work to defend West Virginia from EPA overreach. Additionally, we will always do our best to represent the interests of all the citizens in our 55 counties. Regardless of political affiliation, economic background, or where you call home, our Office will do everything we can to protect you from burdensome regulations.

Agriculture is a vital component to our state’s economy. Just as our Office is actively fighting the EPA on coal-fired power plants and carbon emissions, our Office will fight for farmers against the proposed regulations regarding the Waters of the United States. As a state with a vast amount of beautiful land and water, it’s important for the residents to know their concerns are not falling on deaf ears. Together, we will ensure West Virginia’s voice is heard.

Patrick Morrisey is the Attorney General of West Virginia.
Take what you’ve got, and make it even better.

A WaterFurnace geothermal split system works with your existing furnace to enhance your comfort and savings. It’s smart enough to heat your home using the most economical fuel for any situation – whether that’s fossil fuel or the clean, renewable energy in your yard. Even better, it also provides savings up to 70% on cooling in the summer and hot water all year round. And because WaterFurnace geothermal systems don’t use combustion or burn any on-site fossil fuels, they help ensure your children will enjoy scenes like the one above.

For more information, contact your local WaterFurnace dealer.

DON’T GET BURNT BY FOSSIL FUEL PRICES AGAIN THIS WINTER!
Protect your garden from wildlife

A garden can be satisfying and rewarding, until wildlife invades. Don’t let frustration be your only crop. There are ways to protect your produce.

Fences

Fencing is the most efficient and cost-effective method of keeping unwanted wildlife from small gardens. The extent of the wildlife intrusion and the amount of money a gardener is willing to invest will determine the fence design and materials. White-tailed deer are the most commonly reported cause of garden damage. In areas where deer populations or deer damage are low, a single-wire electric fence, 30 inches off the ground, can deter deer from a garden. To make the single-strand electric fence more effective, smear peanut butter on 3-by-4 inch flags of foil and attach these to the fence at regular intervals of 3 to 4 feet along the fence. The peanut butter will attract deer to the fence, the deer will touch the flags with its nose or mouth, and the shock will provide adverse conditioning. Replacing the foil flags and peanut butter with strips of cloth soaked with an odor-based deer repellent is another alternative.

Small- and medium-sized mammals, such as rabbits, woodchucks (groundhogs), voles, and moles, can also cause significant damage to gardens. To keep out medium-sized mammals, use a fence made of heavy poultry wire or 2-inch mesh woven wire. The fence should extend at least 3 feet above ground and be buried about 10 to 12 inches below ground to prevent burrowing beneath.

Woodchucks are good climbers and can climb over wire fences; therefore, bending the top 12 to 15 inches of wire outward at a 45-degree angle will help prevent this. Adding a single-wire electric fence 4 to 5 inches above ground and about the same distance outside the mesh fence will also help prevent animals from climbing over.

A fence built to the specifications for woodchucks, but using a smaller diameter mesh, will provide protection against smaller mammals, such as rabbits, voles, and moles. Consider using woven wire, poultry wire, or hardware cloth with a mesh opening no larger than 1 inch for rabbits. Voles and moles will require rolls of sheet metal or hardware cloth with a mesh size of ¼ inch or smaller. If you add the single-wire electric fence (with peanut butter or repellent) above the lower mesh fence, you will effectively exclude both deer and smaller mammals.

Repellants

While wildlife repellents discourage browsing, these deterrents have been used with questionable effectiveness. Chemical repellents can be expensive – continued on page iii –
How to store vegetable and flower seeds

Many gardeners enjoy saving seeds from their favorite vegetables and flowers. Excess seeds leftover at the end of the gardening season can be stored for use later in the season or in the following growing season.

When selecting seeds for future planting, make sure the seeds retain their vigor and viability. If seeds are not stored properly, all the effort in collecting the seeds and preserving a valuable variety is lost. Many seeds that are purchased from commercial seed companies are relatively expensive; proper storage saves the cost of purchasing fresh seeds every gardening season.

Harvesting

Select seeds for harvest from your garden planting that are true to type, physiologically mature, and dry prior to storage. Many flower and vegetable seeds can be harvested by cutting the dried seed heads (or pods) and placing them in a paper bag. Popular garden flowers, such as Zinnia, are harvested when the flower petals fade and the entire flower head is dried. Seeds from fruiting vegetables, such as tomatoes and melons, must be collected from vine-ripe fruit, and then either fermented or washed free of pulp in running water and allowed to air-dry on paper towels. The seeds can be spread evenly on paper towels and air-dried in a sunny location for approximately 2 weeks. After drying to low moisture content, the seeds can be stored.

Storage

Never store seeds in areas where temperature and humidity fluctuate. If the seed is too moist before placing in storage, it will deteriorate. A small increase in seed moisture or elevated temperature can reduce the life of a seed by 50 percent. The sum of the storage temperature and relative humidity should not exceed 100. When seeds are purchased, it is important to keep them in a storage location or container that is free of high humidity, such as an airtight container. Seeds leftover from spring planting can be temporarily stored for fall planting in paper seed packets or coin envelopes in a cool location (including the refrigerator). For long-term storage, seed packets can be double-bagged in plastic bags and placed in the freezer.

Most vegetable seeds can be stored as long as 5 to 6 years. Onions, leeks, peppers, and sweet corn store well for approximately 2 years. Beans, carrots, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, peas, pumpkin, tomato, and watermelon seeds store for 4 years. Cucumber, eggplant, lettuce, and radish seeds store for approximately 6 years. Most flower seeds will store well for 5 to 8 years.

Test seed viability each year before planting. Spread the seeds between two wet paper towels and place at room temperature. Be sure to keep the towels moist. After approximately 7 to 10 days, the number of seeds germinated can be counted. Seeds that are stored properly should have a high percentage of germination. If the germination percentage has decreased below 50%, the entire lot should be planted or discarded, so it is not placed back in storage.

By Lewis Jett, WVU Extension Specialist, Commercial Horticulture
Spotted wing Drosophila are a growing insect concern in small fruit plantings

West Virginia small fruit growers need to be on the lookout for a new invasive insect pest, the spotted wing Drosophila (SWD). SWD have become a challenging problem for fall-bearing berry crops throughout the state. SWD flies look similar to native vinegar (fruit) flies whose larvae typically infest over-ripened fruits. However, unlike these native vinegar flies, SWD can infest ripening and ripe fruit.

Determining SWD infestation

To determine whether SWD are present in fruit plantings and if action is needed to control populations, monitor SWD weekly before fruit begin to color and continue monitoring until the end of harvest. Homemade monitoring traps can be constructed from clear plastic deli containers. Make several holes 1/8 inch in diameter in the upper half of the containers. These small holes allow access for SWD and other vinegar flies, but keep out other larger insects. Fill containers with approximately 1 inch of apple cider vinegar (this acts as the lure) plus one drop of unscented dish soap. The dish soap breaks the vinegar’s surface tension, so the flies sink into the vinegar and drown rather than escape. To hang a trap, thread a wire or string through two opposite holes near the top of the container and close with a lid. Hang traps in the fruit zone; make sure the holes are not blocked.

The male Drosophila has a black spot near the end of both wings.

Caution: Do not dispose of excess or used vinegar in the field, because it will compete with the vinegar in traps.

Identifying SWD

Native vinegar flies, as well as other insects will be attracted to the traps. Therefore, SWD will need to be distinguished from the other trapped insects. SWD are small in size (2 to 3 mm) with light yellow or brown bodies and red eyes. With the aid of a hand lens, male SWD can be easily identified by a characteristic black spot near the end of both wings. Because they do not have wing spots, female SWD are more difficult to identify. Female SWD have two rows of serrations on their ovipositor (i.e., egg-laying organ) that are longer and more pronounced than other vinegar fly species; however, the ovipositor may be difficult to view without the aid of a microscope. Hint: To see trapped insects more clearly, pour the trap’s vinegar into a shallow white container or a clear container on a white background to increase the contrast.

Controlling SWD

SWD are best controlled using a combination of different management strategies to minimize resources needed for SWD to multiply. Harvest and remove over-ripe or unwanted fruit from fields, as well as wild host plants (e.g., wild grapes and berries) near crop fields. If SWD are detected in traps, use insecticides to target egg-laying adults. Chemical options include insecticides, such as pyrethroid (e.g., bifenthrin, fenpropathrin, zeta-cypermethrin), organophosphate (e.g., malathion), and spinosyn (e.g., spinetoram). Pyrethrins and spinosad are permissible in organic production.

To learn more about spotted wing Drosophila, contact your county’s WVU Extension Service agent.

By Daniel Frank, WVU Extension Specialist, Entomology

Protect your garden from wildlife

– continued from page i –

and must be reapplied after rain and onto new growth. Scent repellents use an offensive smell to discourage wildlife from entering an area. The most common scent repellents are rotten egg- and blood meal-based products. Taste repellents employ an offensive taste to discourage wildlife from feeding on plants; however, wildlife must eat the treated plants to experience the bad taste. The most common taste repellents are capsaicin-based (a chemical found in hot peppers).

For more information contact your county’s WVU Extension office.

By Sheldon Owen, WVU Extension Specialist, Wildlife
How to dry food at home

Dehydration is considered to be one of the first methods of food preservation. The removal of moisture from food inhibits the growth of the typical spoilage agents – bacteria, yeast, and mold. While early methods of air drying, sun drying, and smoking can still produce sufficient results at home, an electric dehydrator can speed up this process and provide more consistent results. Throughout history, dehydrated meat has had a significant role in the diets of many cultures; however, today, we know you can also dry and enjoy most vegetables and fruits.

About drying produce

When selecting fruits or vegetables for drying, it is important to choose fresh produce that is firm, ripe, and blemish-free. Remember to always wash produce to remove all soil particles. Once the food is dehydrated, it should feel dry but not brittle. Many fruits will take on a leathery but pliable texture.

You can experiment by dipping the fruit in other fruit juices or a honey dip (dissolve ½ cup sugar in ½ cup boiling water) prior to drying. Use caution though, because not only will these methods change the flavor, but it will also increase the calories.

Some of the easiest foods to dry at home include bananas, pineapples, herbs, corn, apples, dry beans and peas, green beans, and sweet potatoes. Apples, bananas, and pineapples are excellent foods to use when first learning the drying process.

Drying apples

Apples need to be soaked in ascorbic acid prior to treatment to preserve the original color and improve the vitamin C content. Peel and core the apples. Slice into ¼-inch rings or slices. Soak the slices for 10 minutes in a solution of ¾ teaspoons ascorbic acid in 2 cups water, or one part lemon juice and one part water. Arrange slices close, but not touching, so as not to disrupt air flow during the drying process. The apples will be dry in 6 to 12 hours using a standard household dehydrator.

Drying bananas

Bananas also need to be treated prior to drying. Select bananas that are solid yellow or slightly brown flecked. Peel and slice ¼ to ¾ inch thick crosswise or lengthwise. Soak the slices 3 to 5 minutes in an ascorbic acid mixture. Dry 8 to 10 hours using a standard home dehydrator.

Drying pineapples

Unlike apples and bananas, pineapples do not need to be pretreated before drying. Select fully ripe, fresh pineapple. Wash, peel, and remove thorny eyes. Slice lengthwise and remove core. Cut in ½-inch slices crosswise. Dry 24 to 36 hours using a standard household dehydrator.

Packaging and storing dried foods

Dried food must be cooled to room temperature prior to packaging and stored in moisture-resistant containers with a tight fitting lid. Typically, dried fruit can be stored for one year. To store any longer, the dried product should be placed in a freezer.

Contact your county’s WVU Extension Service office for information about specific drying techniques or recipes.

By Dave Roberts, WVU Extension Agent – Families and Health, Lincoln and Boone Counties
Leeson’s Import Motors Inc.
320 W. Main St.
Bridgeport, WV 26330
866-533-7667
304-842-5469
www.leesonsarcticcat.com

WEST VIRGINIA ROYALTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

WVROA

We need YOUR help!

Legislation that will take away surface owner’s and mineral owner’s rights has been introduced

HB3151 - introduced by Tim Manchin
HB 616 - introduced by Brooks McCabe

THESE BILLS ATTACK PROPERTY RIGHTS

Stop the “big gas corporation” agenda! JOIN US!

WVROA
PO Box 5010
Fairmont, WV 26555
304-363-0239 - WVaMOA@gmail.com - wvroa.com
WVFB Welcomes New Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab Assistant Coordinator

The Mobile Ag Education Science Lab will be traveling across the state once again this fall, enabling schoolchildren to understand where their food and fiber comes from. Helping to bring that message is WVFB’s new Mobile Ag Lab Assistant Coordinator Becky Walton.

Becky is a Buckhannon native and lives on a farm with husband Mike and children Justin, Catie and Hannah. The Waltons raise Nigerian Dwarf dairy goats, chickens for egg production, and have trees and berries which produce a variety of fruits. They also have dogs, cats, horses and rabbits.

Becky earned a Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Parks Management with a specialty in Wildlands Recreation from WVU. While there she was inducted into Xi Sigma Pi, the Forestry and Agriculture Honorary. She is certified to teach outdoor education programs, including Project WILD/Project Aquatics, and is a Project Learning Tree facilitator.

In her spare (?) time, Becky is pursuing a Masters in Special Education. She is also active with the American Dairy Goat Association, the American Goat Society, and is a Farm Bureau member.

Family time is important to Becky, and she and her family like to camp, hunt and fish, and ride 4-wheelers. Becky is also an avid reader and loves baking, photography and learning new skills.

We welcome Becky to the West Virginia Farm Bureau family!
How dry was it this summer? It was so dry the cows gave powdered milk. It was so dry that the catfish had ticks. It was so dry that the trees were whistling for the dogs. It was so dry that one woman folded her clothes right out of the washing machine. Whoa now, it might not have been quite that dry lately, but we had just bought a few acres with no source of water so we were feeling a bit dusty. We were in the market for ideas on how to hold enough water for a donkey and a mini-horse for a few days at a time. An important requirement was that it didn’t cost much, if anything.

This problem was relayed to a Monroe County class of fifth graders, and eleven-year-old Dalton Bradley, farmer-in-training, came up with a plan that only cost us the price of a sack or two of concrete. He had seen his dad create water troughs from heavy equipment tires and he got us pointed in the right direction.

There are some videos on YouTube that go into a lot more detail, but here are simplified directions.

Find a tire and cut the top off of it. We used a Sawzall reciprocating saw. Decide where you want to put the water. As Dalton says, “I don’t think you can move it without a big tractor.” Moving it would sure be difficult. Also, keep in mind it needs to be accessible to the water that is going in it. In our case we need to check the water level often, so we put it near the road.

Smooth a level spot big enough for the tire and put a thick layer, 2” or so, of gravel where the middle of the tire will be.

Place the tire in position with the hole over the gravel.

Dump the sack of concrete over the gravel and tamp it and smooth it out so all the edges are covered. If an extra large tire is used, it might take more than one bag.

Pour water into the tire gently until the concrete is all covered.

Wait a day or two then bail out the water. The concrete should be hard as a rock.

Add fresh water.

Heavy machinery tires work well, creating huge containers. Elaborate plumbing and floats that control the flow of water can be added. If used in bigger operations, some recommend that road fabric be placed under and around the tire and the area outside the tire be covered with rock to cut down on mud.

Our new trough holds plenty of water for our needs and the water stays relatively clear. Light doesn’t penetrate the black rubber sides, so there is less chance of algae growing. The rubber doesn’t get as hot as metal and it is flexible against the chest of livestock. Those who use them say the water stays warmer in the wintertime than in traditional troughs, the black rubber absorbs and shares stored heat. So far, it has been unbreakable, the rubber and concrete haven’t been dented or shattered, the wind doesn’t blow it away, and the animals don’t turn it over. Since we already had a tractor tire, the total investment was around $15 and a few hours work. Now, wonder if Dalton can help us figure out how to buy a couple of cheap cows?
- All stainless steel construction
- Phase 2 (with FAE) Cordwood & Pellet models
- No smoke, ashes or wood trash in your home
- Standard with stainless steel pumps, grates and combustion blower
- Heats home and household hot water
- 25-year limited warranty
- Connects to your existing systems
- Financing Available
  1-15 year limited warranty on pellet burners

1-800-542-7395  www.hardyheater.com

Authorized LS Tractor Dealer
23-97 HP - 5 Yr Warranty

Stalnaker Equipment
We take vehicles in on trade

Stalnaker Used Cars
We take equipment in on trade
1144 Old Rt. 33, Weston, WV 26452
304-269-2345
www.stalnakerequipment.com

CLARKSBURG
COUNTRY CLUB CHRYSLER
DODGE JEEP RAM
888-424-7611
www.CountryClubChrysler.com

PRINCETON
RAM\Y JEEP DODGE CHRYSLER
304-487-2151
www.rameycars.com

MOTOR TREND
TRUCK OF THE YEAR
RAM 1500
2013 2014
FIRST EVER
BACK-TO-BACK CHAMPION

GUTS-GLORY RAM

AUGUST SOLAR FLARE
SOLAR INSTALLED ON YOUR HOME

SYSTEMS STARTING AT
$13,775*
Made In The USA Solarworld Panels
30% Federal Tax Credit
Price Match Guarantee**
Emergency Back-up Power

Mountain View Solar
304-258-4733
www.mtvSolar.com

*(12)255 watt Solarworld Panels, While Supplies Last,
Expires September 15th, 2014 **On Comparable Systems
**Stallman, continued**

**We Read the Fine Print**

When regulators show up on farms and ranches, they won’t be looking back at talking points to decide whether farming requires an expensive federal permit. They will use the regulation. So let’s take a look at the fine print.

Ditches—The rule regulates ditches as “tributaries.” EPA claims that the rule would exclude ditches, but the so-called ditch exclusion only covers ditches dug entirely in “uplands.” The rule doesn’t define “uplands” (so much for clarity), but we know that uplands are not wetlands, and most ditches are “wetland” at some point along their length. That’s just one reason Farm Bureau believes the narrow ditch “exclusion” will be meaningless.

Farming exemptions—EPA offers assurances that all farming and ranching exemptions are being preserved under the rule. But those exemptions are extremely limited when it comes to activities in jurisdictional waters. That’s why the exemptions will not protect most ordinary farming and ranching from permit requirements if ditches and low spots in farm fields are regulated, as they will be under the proposed rule.

Under the rule, federal permits would be needed for common farming activities such as applying fertilizer or pesticides, or moving cattle, if materials that are considered pollutants would fall into regulated low spots or ditches. Farmers can’t wait for federal permits to fertilize or protect their crops from pests and diseases. Permits also would be required for activities such as plowing, planting and fencing in these new “waters of the U.S.” unless a farmer has been farming the same land for decades, raising hurdles for beginning farmers.

Landowners could be in for a rude awakening—faced with penalties or lawsuits for the very things EPA says the rule doesn’t cover. Farm Bureau is dedicated to preventing that from happening, and we thank those leaders in the House and Senate who, in a bipartisan manner, are standing up for farmers and other landowners.

We hope EPA officials will read the fine print. We have, and that’s how we know it’s time to Ditch the Rule!

**Wilfong, continued**

the administration’s “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals” executive order, putting the focus on border security, allowing states more authority to use National Guard troops and providing funding. Unfortunately, the Senate recessed without considering the legislation. The president has also vowed to veto the bill.

President Obama now says he will issue sweeping executive orders to deal with the immigration problem. It appears these orders will include amnesty for millions of illegal immigrants, subverting the proper immigration system. The Constitution is clear in giving Congress sole authority to control immigration policy, but it appears the president intends to violate that authority yet again.

On July 31, the WVFB Board of Directors voted to send a letter to all of our Congressional representatives, stating our adamant support for stopping illegal immigration and securing our southern border. Please join us in this effort.
Smooth. Agile.
And flexes its muscle for HEAVY lifting.

INTRODUCING the Massey Ferguson® 4600 Series. Our new mid-range tractor was designed with the unique combo of power and maneuverability you need for hay, livestock and poultry operations. At its core is the new power shuttle transmission. During loader work, it lets you go forward and reverse over and over without clutching. Just another example of how we’re using global innovation to help you farm your world. Discover the new 4600 Series at your dealer or masseyferguson.us.

©2013 AGCO Corporation, 4205 River Green Parkway, Duluth, GA 30096 (877) 525-4384. MF13C001TCG

Lemon’s Farm Equipment
42 Lemon Lane, Parkersburg, WV
304-863-3469 • www.lemonsfarmequipment.com

THE 2014
MULE
4010 TRANS4x4

BEYOND STRONG
CONVERTIBLE 2+2 PASSENGER DESIGN
4100 V-TWIN ENGINE
CONTINUOUSLY VARIABLE TRANSMISSION
STEEL FARMING BED AND FLOOR BOARD

Dohm Cycles
616 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV
(304) 342-5148
www.dohmcycles.com

Kawasaki
Let the good times roll.

FNB Bank
We Want To Help You......
*Buy the Farm*

Call
Bob Kidwell or Dawn White
1-800-482-8110
Or Visit Us @
www.fnbromney.com

22 West Virginia Farm Bureau News
Land is a coveted and scarce asset in many parts of the world. In the United States, the average family’s most valuable asset is its home.

To carry out a special purpose they have in mind, some people decide to donate real estate to a favorite charitable or educational organization, such as the West Virginia Farm Bureau or the WVU Foundation. There are a number of ways to do that. Each will earn an income tax deduction that can be used for up to six years.

One option is to donate the property outright for the organization’s immediate use or for sale by the organization so that the proceeds can be used to further its mission. That allows you to see the benefit of the gift, of course.

Another possibility is to donate a “remainder interest.” That means that the owner retains all lifetime rights and duties (such as maintaining the property), but the next owner will be the charitable organization.

This often works well when none of the heirs will be able to use the property after the owner dies. Using this method to make a charitable gift relieves the family of the effort of selling it.

Donating a primary residence, farm, vacation home or condo this way merely requires a new deed to transfer the remainder interest to the nonprofit.

A third option is to use real estate to create a gift that will pay income to the owner or to others and avoids the capital gain taxes that would be owed from selling the property.

This is often an attractive choice for those who own rental property but no longer want to manage it. They can retain the income stream (and possibly increase it) through the donation but get rid of the “headaches.” It is also an option chosen when moving to a smaller home during retirement.

Equally important is the benefit the organization will receive from your gift. The property can be used by the nonprofit “as is” or it can be sold to fund a program or purpose that you feel is appropriate. Think of all the good you can do!

That’s good planning.

Deborah Miller, J.D., Sr. Director of Planned Giving, West Virginia University Foundation
**Meeting Will Discuss Poultry Litter as Value-Added Product; Explore Possible Marketing Opportunities**

Attention, poultry producers: your excess poultry litter could be sold as a value-added product, increasing your bottom line and reducing nutrients reaching the Chesapeake Bay.

If this sounds interesting to you, get the full scoop at a Growers Meeting to be held Tuesday, August 26 at 7 pm. at the Plains District Community Center, 233 McCauley Drive, Timberville, Virginia.

A consultant team from regions 1, 8 and 9 of the West Virginia Planning and Development Council will facilitate the meeting.

Discussions will include: nutrient management planning and local land application of litter; how much excess litter is in the Virginias; a business plan proposal that considers the formation of a poultry growers cooperative to process and sell excess poultry litter; collection and processing of the poultry litter; possible markets and interests; anticipated poultry litter products available for sale; financial considerations for such an enterprise and possible return on investment.

The meeting is sponsored in part and refreshments will be provided by the Contract Poultry Growers Association of the Virginias.
Growth in the number of farmers’ markets continued last year, and the markets are adapting to new locations and innovative formats to meet consumer needs. According to USDA, there were 8,144 farmers’ markets in 2013, an increase of 3.6 percent from 2012. The rapid growth can be attributed to several factors, including consumer perceptions about superior freshness and quality; the ability to learn about farming practices; and a desire to support local businesses and farmers. An analysis released in 2013 by A.T. Kearney, *Buying Into the Local Food Movement*, showed that consumers trusted farmers’ markets more than any other types of grocery venues to deliver local food.

Growth in the number of farmers’ markets is slowing, compared with the explosive increases of 10 percent in 2011 and 17 percent in 2012. In some areas, the number of farmers’ markets has reached a saturation point. In others, there were too few vendors to sustain the market. Yet, an increasing array of farmers’ market concepts are bringing farmers and consumers together in new ways.

Popular in many countries with hot climates, night-time farmers’ markets are gaining a foothold in many large urban areas. In 2012, a “Pop-Up Greenmarket” in an empty lot in Harlem became the first night-time farmers’ market in New York City. In other cities, night-time farmers’ markets allow consumers to buy farm-fresh products after a busy day at work. They have become popular gathering places for food, socializing, entertainment and even romance.

Farmers’ markets are also serving both corporate and factory workers. Smaller-scale, roving markets are set up for short periods of time in office building lobbies and factory parking lots, so busy, time-stressed workers can take shop during breaks, lunch periods and work hours.

Farmers’ markets are now being featured, rated and evaluated as tourist destinations, with “top 10” lists and travel recommendations in numerous national magazines, newspapers and travel sites. In 1994, USDA began publishing the National Directory of Farmers’ Markets, with up-to-date information about locations, dates and hours of operation, websites and methods of payment accepted.

Farmers’ markets are now also reaching some of the nation’s most distressed consumers. Once criticized for catering largely to more lucrative consumers, farmers’ markets are now being established in “food deserts”—areas where affordable, nutritious food is difficult to obtain.

And thousands of markets accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits, formerly known as food stamps. By providing the point-of-sale equipment needed to process payments from the Electronic Benefits Transfer Cards used by SNAP recipients and beneficiaries of other programs—like the Women, Infants and Children program—USDA is fostering access to fresher foods. Early studies indicate that the ability to use EBT cards and other incentives are starting to improve healthy eating habits of SNAP recipients.

Adapting to meet diverse consumer needs and to serve those who previously lacked access to farmers’ markets is starting to pay off, and not just for farmers.

USDA estimated that farmers’ market sales exceeded $1 billion in 2005, and some industry experts believe sales approached $7 billion last year. In a report issued in 2012, *The Economic Impact of Farmers Markets: A Study of 9 Markets in 3 Major U.S. Cities*, Market Umbrella—a nonprofit organization devoted to cultivating public markets, showed that farmers’ markets generate significant economic benefits for vendors, host neighborhoods and surrounding communities. In the studied cities, impact on vendors ranged from $52,000 to $40.5 million per market; impact on nearby businesses was $19,900 to $15.7 million; and on communities, $72,000 to $56.3 million.

Along with the economic impact, farmers’ markets offer a rare opportunity for agriculture and consumers to connect in-person. It’s a chance to entice and educate consumers about where their food comes from and how it is raised or grown. Almost no other shopping experience brings consumers and agriculture together to build trust by meeting face to face.

Robert Giblin consults, writes and speaks about agriculture and food industry issues and trends.
With fresh inspiration from the season’s juiciest, most delicious fruits, you can create jams, jellies and other spreads with ease right from your own kitchen.

For many, the thought of turning their favorite fruits into sweet and scrumptious jams and jellies may sound like countless hours in a hot, stuffy kitchen. But creating your own, homemade fruit spreads can be quite simple with the right ingredients and tips.

“Any cook can create delightful jams and jellies, regardless of their canning abilities,” said Shirley Camp, M.S., registered dietitian, licensed dietitian nutritionist and retired University of Illinois Extension master canner and educator. “There are so many great products, such as Mrs. Wages No Cook Freezer Jam Fruit Pectin, which allow you to whip up homemade spreads, without cooking, saving time without a messy kitchen.”
1. Pick ’em right
When picking berries, keep in mind these fruits have high water content and are very fragile. So, use smaller containers when picking them so the berries do not get crushed under their own weight.

2. Rinse, don’t soak
Due to their fragile nature, the berries should be lightly “rinsed” to remove surface dirt. Do not allow them to sit in water for very long because they tend to take on more water and will become mushy.

3. Firm and ripe
When selecting berries for jellied products, ripe berries are best, but not overripe ones. Choose those that have good flavor and are still firm to the touch. For strawberries, look for the smaller, juicier berries instead of larger types that are available today.

4. Mix flavors
While many people prefer their jams to be one flavor, mixing two or more different types of berries together produces great jams with good flavor. Try a mix consisting of blackberry and red raspberry, or strawberry with red raspberry. Another great combination includes pureed berries and peaches mixed together to make jam. Red raspberry peach jam is always a huge hit.

For canning or preservation questions, call the Mrs. Wages Customer Care Center at 1-800-647-8170, Monday–Friday 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. CST. For additional canning recipes and how-to information, visit www.mrswages.com

Fast Fruity Freezer Jam
Yield: 5 half pints
1 1/2 cups sugar or Splenda No Calorie Sweetener (Granular)
1 package Mrs. Wages No Cook Freezer Jam Fruit Pectin
4 cups crushed fruit, fresh or frozen
Combine sugar or Splenda and pectin in bowl. Blend well. Stir in crushed fruit. Stir for three minutes. Ladle mixture into clean jars, leaving 1/4-inch headspace.

Wipe jar rims and threads. Cover with two-piece lids. Twist lid bands so not loose but not too tight. Let stand for 30 minutes to thicken. Refrigerate up to three weeks, freeze up to one year.

State Fair Strawberry Rhubarb Jam
Yield: 6 half pints
4 cups crushed strawberries
2 cups chopped rhubarb
1/4 cup fresh squeezed lemon juice
1 pkg Mrs. Wages Fruit Pectin Home Jell
5 1/2 cups sugar
1/2 tablespoon butter

Serrano Cherry Jam
Yield: 8 pints
1/4 cup olive oil
1 cup Serrano peppers, seeded and minced
16 cups cherries, fresh or frozen and thawed
4 cups sugar
4 cups water
1 package Mrs. Wages Fruit Pectin Home Jell
In large pot on high heat, pour olive oil in and bring to almost smoke point. Add peppers and blister. Add cherries and sugar, reduce heat, then pour in water. Bring to a simmer to dissolve sugar. Add pectin and continue to cook for 15 minutes.

Remove from heat. Skim off any foam that forms on top of jam. Ladle mixture into 16-ounce containers or freezer safe zipper bags.
WE STAND FOR you.

And for doing the little things right.

Farm safety means doing the little things right so that the big things go smoothly. That's why Nationwide Agribusiness, the nation's number one farm insurer, partners with the West Virginia Farm Bureau Federation

United, we value taking the time to teach and learn safety in all aspects

Call 866-670-1765 or visit nationwide.com/wvfb to learn more.

Products underwritten by Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Company, Employers Mutual Insurance Company, Mutual Fire, Property and Casualty Insurance Company and MAICO Insurance Company. Home Office: 1100 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA, 50391. We Stand For You is a service mark of Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Company. Subject to underwriting guidelines, review, and approval. Products and discounts not available to all persons in all states. Nationwide may make a financial contribution to this organization in return for the opportunity to market products and services to its members or customers. Nationwide, Nationwide Insurance and the Nationwide frame mark are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. The Farm Bureau, FB, and the FB National logo are trademarks of American Farm Bureau Federation and used with permission under license by Nationwide. © 2013 Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. All rights reserved. FBO-0176M1 (11/13)

NationwideAgribusiness.com