

GYF NOVEMBER NEWS

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THE FARM to SCHOOL PROGRAM

OCTOBER

NATIONAL FARM-SCHOOL MONTH



- Fresher Food for School Kids
- Nutrition Education
- Building Local Markets
- Hands-On Ag Experiences

The *Farm to School* program has been enthusiastically welcomed by educators, food service managers and farmers as an exciting new avenue to connect kids and fresh local farm products. The program was legislated in 2010 as part of the federal Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act which reauthorized child nutrition programs such as school lunches and breakfasts. For the first time in many years, the 2010 legislation added new nutrition standards. To assist in meeting these new standards additional resources were provided by USDA to help food programs connect with local farms and gardens so that students would have better access to fresh produce and to encourage the implementation of nutrition education activities.

A collaboration between PSU Adams Co Extension educator Carla Snyder and Carol Richwine, agricultural science teacher at Northern York School district and former advisor of Gettysburg Young Farmers, has brought *Farm to School* to South Central Pa. *PennLive* announced in a December 22, 2014 news posting that \$99,960 had been received to benefit students in seven school districts in York, Cumberland and Adams Counties. The grant will support and promote ag literacy and nutrition education through projects such as school gardens, field trips to local farm and cooking classes. In addition, meeting the growing demand for locally produced foods will open new marketing opportunities for local producers, processors and distributors.

A sample of *Farm to School* activities held at Northern High School on October 23 included a tour of *Farm to School* gardens, a cooking class, and a taste testing/data collection session in the cafeteria. Students taste tested apple crisp and curried sweet potato soup. These tasting session not only introduce students to novel uses of familiar fruits and veggies, but also provide feedback to food service staff as to student preferences.

Mrs. Richwine will be our guest speaker at the November membership banquet and officer election. She'll share her *Farm to School* story with us and preview what's ahead for the program in Adams County. *Farm to School* would be a wonderful opportunity for GYF community service as well as a possible marketing outlet for Adams produce. Save the date and plan to attend!

NOVEMBER 18, HOSS RESTAURANT GETTYSBURG

meet at 6:30, eat at 7:00

Rsvp by 11/16

DATES TO NOTE.

Nov 11-12

2015 Penn State Dairy Nutrition Workshop at Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel Grantville, PA. To register online [click here](#).

Nov 18, 6:30 p.m.

GYF Fall membership banquet and officer election. Hoss' restaurant on Rt. 30 E, Gettysburg, see article for details.

Dec. 15, 9:30 a.m.-3:00

Grain Marketing Meeting, Lancaster Farm & Home Center, register by 12/14 at <http://www.cvent.com/events/grain-marketing-seminar/event>

Jan 8, 7:00-9:00

GYF/FFA friends and family bowling at Edgewood. More details to follow.

Jan 19, Feb 2,

Feb 16, Mar 1, 2016

GYF Winter Classes at GHS in the ag classroom, 7:30-9:00. Stay tuned for topics and details.



Wednesday, Nov 18, 2015

DINNER AT HOSS' RESTAURANT

Meet at 6:30 eat at 7:00 Order from menu

Speaker: Carol Richwine on "Farm to School"

RSVP By 11/16 to 334-2760 Or 334-6254 ext 6285

Step UP!



be a GYF officer

- * Nominations needed for President and Vice President
- * Two year term, 2015-2017
- * Ask Carl Wilkinson, Pres. or Jason Rentzel, VP about job description
- * Nominations from the floor will be accepted at 11/18 banquet



Many thanks to the Smith family for the entertainment, education, fun, food and fellowship at the fall field day.



American FFA Degree

Gretchen Dubs became the 20th member of the Battlefield FFA to earn the American FFA Degree, the highest achievement of the National FFA Organization, at the 88th National FFA Convention and Expo held in Louisville, KY, on October 31. Battlefield FFA was chartered on April 1, 1938, ten years after the beginning of the FFA organization.

Dubs graduated from Gettysburg High School in 2013 and is currently a junior at Penn State University, majoring in plant science/horticulture. Starting her Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program with an acre of garden, she grew tomatoes, peppers, melons and various other vegetables. As a Capstone Project during her senior year, she worked at the Penn State Fruit Research Laboratory in Biglerville. There, she conducted experiments with other researchers, helping with lab tasks, starch tests and sweetness tests as well as pruning, picking and random tree care. Additionally, she conducted her own research project, *Digital Image Analysis of Honeycrisp Apples*. The purpose of this project was to calculate the amount of blush on the different strains of Honeycrisp apples, determining the amount of lighter tones compared to red areas on the apples. This is an important project because consumers tend to choose a bright, red apple over others if given choices. Dubs was also a published author of this study in the Pennsylvania Horticulture Journal.

Congratulations to Gretchen for this outstanding accomplishment and for joining a very prestigious group of Gettysburg High School graduates.



CropLife International Lists Tools for Fighting Food Insecurity

According to **CropLife International**, there are five critical tools that the world needs to fight food insecurity. They are as follows:

- * The development of drought-tolerant crops
- * No-till farming to preserve nutrients and topsoil
- * The development of nutrient-use efficient crops
- * Effective use of crop protection products
- * Biofortified crops that improve staple foods with vitamins and other nutrients

Gettysburg Young
Farmer Educational
Assoc.

1130 Old Harrisburg Rd.
Gettysburg, Pa. 17325



*"Young farmers are any farmers
willing to learn"*



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November 18, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
Fall Banquet and Officer Election
Hoss' Steak and Seafood Restaurant
Gettysburg

Rsvp by 11/16 to
dkammerer@gettysburg.k12.pa.us
or wtindall@gettysburg.k12.pa.us