

MILLVILLE FFA NEWSLETTER

Winter 2024



PA Farm Show & Mid-Winter Convention

Millville FFA members attended the PA Farm Show & Mid-Winter Convention on January 8th, 2024. This was a great experience for all members who attended whether they met industry professionals, competed in a Leadership Development Event, or were recognized for their achievements in the National FFA Organization.

In the morning, five of our FFA members competed in the Ag Issues Leadership Development Event. The team gave a presentation about how solar panels are effecting local farmers. We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to the Columbia County Farm Bureau who helped us prepare for the contest but also shared key information and anecdotal stories that helped us craft our presentation. **Our team placed 5th in the state!**

In the afternoon, members and parents converged on the New Holland Ag Arena for the Mid-Winter Convention. First-year FFA members: **Willow Lauer, Sydney McWilliams, Olivia Sylvester, Collin Weaver, and Emily Morris** received their FFA jacket from the PA FFA Alumni Association. Third-year FFA members: **Rowan Weaver, Bailey Brown, and Rachel Troup** received they Keystone Degree, the highest award the Pennsylvania FFA Association can bestow upon its members.

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Representative Leadbeter's Farmers Breakfast

Eight Millville FFA members attended a legislative breakfast hosted by Representative Leadbeter. The panel of speakers featured the Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, Russell Redding, Representative Leadbeter, Representative Stender, Senator Culver, and Chris Herr from Penn Ag Industries. The speakers gave a legislative update about the outlook for agriculture and policies that may effect farmers at the local level. Our members were excited to hear that agriculture is the #1 industry both in Pennsylvania and Columbia County. The future is bright for agriculture!



Front Row (L-R): Senator Culver, Karissa Dunn, Sierra Barton, Emily Morris, rowan Weaver, Nicole Guise, and Secretary of Agriculture, Russell Redding.
Back Row (L-R): Olivia Sylvester, Representative Leadbeter, Samantha Shuman, Alyssa Brown, and Chris McGeehan.

R & K SUBS

Our FFA Chapter is selling R & K 12" subs (\$7.00) and pretzel sandwiches (\$6.00). There are so many to choose from!

If you would like to place an order, please contact Ms. Guise. **Orders are due March 18th.**

Ms. Guise
nguisse@millsd.us



**LEARNING TO DO
DOING TO LEARN
EARNING TO LIVE
LIVING TO SERVE**

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ACES Conference

In February, nine of our FFA members attended the Agricultural Cooperation Establishes Success (ACES) Leadership Conference. This year's theme was "Dare to be a STAR".

Our members got to meet other FFA members from across the state, meet new friends, and make lasting memories. Some of the workshops we attended were on the topics of using social media to advocate for a cause, practicing being confident, leadership, communicating with a team, and how to get outside of our comfort zones.

We all learned to be a STAR and dared to step out of our comfort zones! Ms. Guise even sang in the "Finish the Line" karaoke-style game at dinner!



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National FFA Week

We had a jammed packed week of celebrating the National FFA Organization and Career & Technical Education!



Ag Olympics



Teacher Breakfast

Ice Cream Social



Keystone Degree Breakfast



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Area Public Speaking Contest Results



Congratulations to our members who participated in the North Branch Area Public Speaking Contests!

Olivia Sylvester - 4th Place (Jr. Prepared)

Sierra Barton - 5th Place (Extemporaneous)

Karissa Dunn - 6th Place (Extemporaneous)

Eels in the Classroom (EITC) Update

The eels are back! This year, Millville Agricultural Sciences is one of 22 schools in Pennsylvania to be a part of the Eels in the Classroom (EITC) project sponsored by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. Throughout the school year Ms. Guise's Wildlife Management and Natural Resource Management Classes will share the responsibilities of caring for the 7 elvers, or young eels. In the spring, we will release the eels into a tributary of the Susquehanna River.



Most recently, the Millville Agriculture Program was named a **Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience School of Excellence** by the PA Association of Environmental Educators!



School of Excellence

MEANINGFUL WATERSHED EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE
MS. GUISE'S EELS IN THE CLASSROOM PROJECT

AMAZING WORK BY THE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT CLASS, NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASS AND THE AGRICULTURE PROGRAM!



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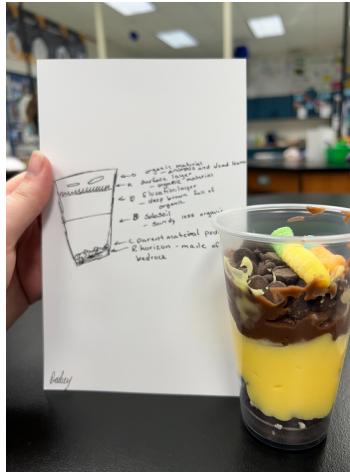


Agriculture Class Happenings

Have you ever wondered what being in an agriculture class is like? Check out some of these AG-mazing activities!



(Left) Zoe placed second at the Farm Show with her birdhouse project!



(Right) Edible soil layers!



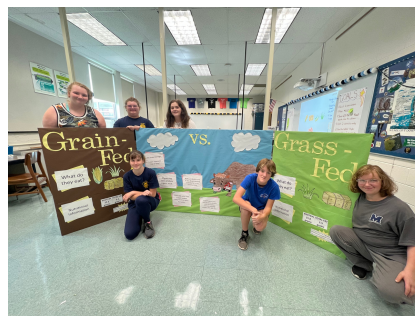
Is cereal magnetic? YES!



Making floral arrangements in the greenhouse.



Our worm farms are hard at work composting the food waste from the cafeteria.



Coming Up!



- March 18-22 - Ag Literacy Week
- March 20th - Women in Ag Conference
- March 28th - R&K Sub Delivery
- April 6th - Ag Awareness Day
- April 30th - Envirothon
- May 4th - Chapter Awards Banquet
- May 22-24th - Plant Sale

LIVING TO SERVE!

If you are interested in donating any of the following items, please contact Ms. Guise at nguisse@millsd.us.

- Black dress pants (girls or guys)
- Black dress shoes (girls or guys)
- White, collared shirts (girls or guys)
- Black nylons
- Scrapbook paper & supplies
- Glue sticks
- Silk Flowers
- Your time - We are always looking for classroom guest speakers!



The Horticulture Class and the school store collaborated to make Valentine's bouquets

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Written by...



Sierra Barton
Reporter



Samantha Shuman
Sentinel