

## Farm Bureau Plans Special Events At Ag Progress Exhibits

CAMP HILL (Cumberland Co.) — The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is inviting visitors to Ag Progress Days, taking place August 18-19-20, to stop by its exhibit for some special events this year.

As in years past, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau will have an exhibit at its usual location near the corner of East Fifth and Main streets at the show. However this year instead of being in a tent, Farm Bureau's

exhibit will be housed in a new 42-foot by 88-foot agricultural building constructed by Walters Buildings of Cable, Ohio.

"The building will provide a permanent structure to house our exhibit and a comfortable, weather-proof environment for the thousands of people who visit our exhibit each year," said Farm Bureau President Guy Donaldson.

"We're proud of the new building and want to show it off during Ag Progress Days. It's a

confirmation of our long-term commitment to Penn State's Ag Progress Days and our relationship with the College of Agricultural Sciences," Donaldson said.

In honor of the new building, Farm Bureau is planning two special events during Ag Progress Days.

A brief ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for 11 a.m., August 18 in front of the building. Donaldson is to be on hand to officially open the building to the public. Afterward there will be refreshments for those attending the ceremony.

On Wednesday, August 19 a building dedication and flag raising ceremony is set for 1:30 p.m. Several agricultural leaders have been invited to make brief remarks, including the Pennsylvania secretary of agriculture, the dean of Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences, and the chairmen and vice chairmen of the state House and

Senate Agriculture committees. A representative from Walters Building will also speak.

The event is to conclude with the release of 1,000 homing pigeons in front of the building for a 100-mile race sanctioned by the Blue Mountain Invitational Combine, affiliated with the International Federation of Homing Pigeon Fanciers.

"It promises to be an unforgettable afternoon at our exhibit," said Donaldson.

Farm Bureau will present a trophy and \$100 prize to the owner of the winning bird, Wednesday evening in Schuylkill Haven. Second and third place prizes will also be presented.

In addition to special events, visitors to Farm Bureau's Ag Progress exhibit will have the opportunity to talk with representatives of Farm Bureau's many member programs and services. These include Blue Cross and Blue Shield group

health insurance, Safemark farm supplies, Women's and Young Farmer & Rancher committees, Nationwide Insurance, money-saving member benefits, tax planning and computerized accounting business services, state and national legislative programs and the Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation.

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is a voluntary, statewide farm organization which represents more than 26,000 farm and rural families.

Penn State's Ag Progress Days is held at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center at Rockspring located on Route 45, nine miles southeast of State College. The show features more than 500 acres of educational and commercial exhibits, tours and machinery demonstrations. Show hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday with extended hours to 8 p.m. on Wednesday. Admission and parking are free.

Penn State Ag

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### Being Wool Queen 'Sounded Cool,' Says Ashley



Photo by Andy Andrews.

KUTZTOWN (Berks Co.) — Ashley Shollenberger admits she's not one to wear skirts and blouses.

"Actually I'm totally jeans and T-shirts," she said. "I can't stand skirts."

But the new Berks County wool queen enjoys the idea of being queen. The idea "sounded cool," Ashley admitted. "It has a lot of prestige."

On Tuesday at the Kutztown Fair, Ashley, 16, daughter of Jeff and Penny Shollenberger, Mohrsville, was trimming and fitting her Oxford yearling ewe, "Mackenzie," a name she borrowed. "I heard it on TV and liked it," Ashley said.

The home-schooled queen was readying for the fitting and showmanship contest of which began the night she was crowned at the fair.

She has been showing at the fair four years. The four-year Berks County Sheep and Lamb Club member said this is the first time she has been a queen.

Is she prepared?

She believes so. She has no public speaking worries. She served as toastmaster of her leadership forum in March this year at the county 4-H ag center. She's also a vice president of her club.

Ashley raises Oxford sheep. She has five ewes. She works with her brother, Justin, who also has an Oxford ram. Her sister, Amber, has Cheviots.

Ashley said she plans to attend college to study "animals or little kids."

"But little kids are easier to work with," she said.

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