

FSA Farm Loans For Socially Disadvantaged Persons

YORK (York Co.) — The Farm Service Agency (FSA) can make and guarantee loans to socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family-size farms and ranches. Funds specifically for these loans are reserved each year.

A socially-disadvantaged farmer is one, of a group, whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of the identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Hispanics, Asians, and Pacific Islanders.

Direct Loans are made to applicants by FSA and include both farm operating and farm ownership loans.

Guaranteed Loans also may be made for ownership or operating purposes, and may be made by any lending institution subject to Federal or State supervision (banks, savings and loans, insurance companies, and units of the Farm Credit system). Typically,

FSA guarantees 90 or 95 percent of a loan against any loss that might be incurred if the loan fails.

Farm Ownership Loan funds may be used to purchase or enlarge a farm, purchase easements or rights of way needed in the farm's operation, erect or improve buildings such as a dwelling or barn, promote soil and water conservation and development, and pay closing costs.

Farm Operating Loan funds may be used to purchase livestock, poultry, farm and home equipment, feed, seed, fuel, fertilizer, chemicals, hail and other crop insurance, food, clothing, medical care, and hired labor. Funds also may be used to install or improve water systems for home use, livestock or irrigation, and other improvements.

Persons who think they might be eligible are urged to contact York County Farm Service Agency located at 120 Pleasant Acres Road, York, PA 17402-8987. Telephone number is (717) 755-2966 extension 2.

N.D. Youth Receives NFU's Seymour Scholarship

AURORA, Colo. — The National Farmers Union Foundation recently announced that Patsy Murphy of Bowman, N.D., is the 2003 recipient of the Hubert K. Seymour Scholarship. The \$2,000 scholarship, given annually since 1995, honors Hubert K. Seymour, a Farmers Union leader and rural activist from Illinois.

"Mr. Seymour's children established the scholarship as a living memorial to their father to help deserving young people finance their college education," said Leesa Witt, NFU director of education. "The scholarship serves as a tribute to his commitment to education and his dedication to Farmers Union."

Patsy is the daughter of Jim and Peggy Murphy and a recent graduate of Bowman High School, where she maintained a 3.99 grade point average. She has been a leader and an active participant in cross-country, speech, track, band, chorus, science Olympiad, student council, and the National Honor Society. In addition, she is involved with the "Big Buddy/Little Buddy Program Where Character Counts" in her community.

Murphy will attend the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks in the fall where she plans to study biology and pre-med. She said she intends to become a doctor and would like to eventually have a medical practice in rural America.

New FFA President Steps Into FFA's 'Legacy'

(Continued from Page A1)

this young man, it does not take long to see how much FFA means to him and his commitment to do his best this year as state president.

However, as a freshman in high school, Eric would have never believed that someday he would have the FFA's top position. He admits he did not know much about the organization until a few weeks into his first agriculture class.

"I walked into my ag classroom my freshman year not really knowing why I signed up for agriculture," said Rubenstein, "But I wanted to take an animal science class. I heard that I had to take this one agriculture class before I could take any other ag classes. When I walked in, I never really even heard of the FFA."

Eric became interested in joining FFA after his agriculture teacher explained what the FFA was and what it could do for students. He thought it would be fun and take advantage of the chapter field trips. After joining, it did not take long before his passion and drive for FFA evolved to become more than just enjoying field trips. Eric states that his first National Convention was a life-changing experience.

"After that first year at National Convention, it really showed me what the FFA could give to you and the different opportunities you could gain from the FFA," noted Eric. Since his first National Convention, Eric has risen to the top in many different areas of competition, including a third place finish at the 2002 National Convention in zoology competition.

Inspiration to run for a state officer position came to Eric after meeting with state officers during their chapter visits to Danville FFA and after another chapter member was selected as a state

officer two years ago. Through those experiences, the inspiration for a state office became a goal.

"(I thought that) it would be really neat to travel all across the state and meet different people and influence their lives, the same way that they would influence mine," Eric said.

His selection as the president of this year's state officer team came as surprise at the state activities days at Penn State University in June. As Eric noted his reaction was "extremely shocked, surprised, and amazed."

Although Eric and his fellow state officer team members are new to their offices, they are off and running with a very busy schedule that will keep them on the road for most of July, with visits to the Pennsylvania Governors School for Agriculture, agriculture education meetings, chapter visits, and a trip to Washington, D.C. At each event, the Pennsylvania FFA state officer team will attend, they will continue to promote their theme of "Step Into A Legacy" for FFA across Pennsylvania.

This year's theme, according to Eric, was selected by the state officers in recognition of the state association's 75th anniversary.

"As a state officer team, we are very privileged and honored to serve the state as the 75th team. We want to get more people to step into the (FFA's) legacy," said Eric, expressing that FFA members inheriting this legacy will lead to the building of a stronger organization in Pennsylvania.

Eric will be joined by a talented team of officers in the upcoming

year, including State Vice President Amber Frank of Cedar Crest FFA Chapter, Lebanon, Lebanon County; Eastern Region Vice President Brian Oberholtzer, Grassland FFA Chapter, East Earl, Lancaster County; North Central Region Vice President Melissa Sankey, Clearfield FFA, Clearfield, Clearfield County; Amy Kaucher, Cumberland Valley FFA, Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County; Western Region Vice President Becky Hughes, United FFA, New Florence, Westmoreland County; State Secretary Heather Sisto, Bermudian FFA, York Springs, Adams County; State Reporter Bernadette Nace, Big Spring FFA, Carlisle, Cumberland County; State Treasurer Eric Chamberlin, Brockway FFA, Brockway, Jefferson County; State Sentinel Laura Grove, Shippensburg FFA, Shippensburg, Franklin County; and State Chaplin Jason Klouser, Tri-Valley FFA, Hegins, Schuylkill County.

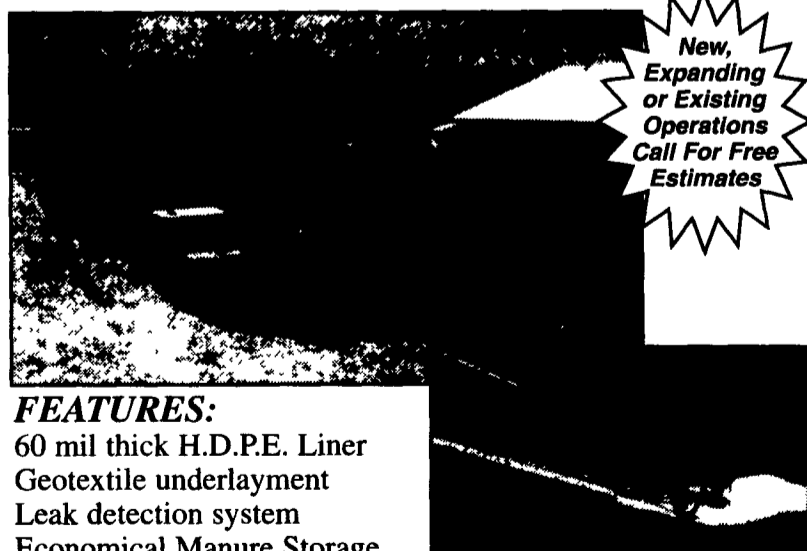
Eric shares his favorite quote by Eleanor Roosevelt as his advice to all FFA members this year:

"You gain strength, courage, and confidence from every experience in which you can truly stop and look fear in the face. You can say to yourself I have lived through this. I can take the next thing that comes along. You must do the thing you think you can not do," said Eric. "With the FFA, if you don't strive to achieve different goals and take your strength, your courage, or your confidence that you gain from different experiences, you are not going to achieve the goals you might have set for yourself."

FARMERS The Best In The Field

SITE EXCAVATION

Installation of H.D.P.E. Liner Systems for: Dairy, Hog, and Veal Manure Storage Facilities Golf Course and Recreational Ponds



New, Expanding or Existing Operations Call For Free Estimates

FEATURES:

- 60 mil thick H.D.P.E. Liner
- Geotextile underlayment
- Leak detection system
- Economical Manure Storage
- Seals manure in, subsurface water out
- Concrete ramp for manure agitation and pumping

MANADA
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

1942 Camp Swatara Road • Myerstown, PA 17067
Ph: (717) 933-8853 • Fax:(717) 933-8078

SENENIG MANUFACTURING



- Crowd Gates (we install)
- Headlocks w/domed cow release
- Tie Stalls w/stainless steel Curb Mount

Manufacturers of Gates & Fencing w/Round corners for Safety & Strength

- Hot Dipped Galvanized, Gatorshield Galvanized Products
- Gutter Grates

All Types Of CUSTOM MANUFACTURING and REPAIR
Phone: 610-488-7801 Fax 610-488-8873

Hi Calcium Lime
Dry, applied with boom truck
80% CCE-fast acting
Starting \$14.25 per ton
Central Berks Co., PA
\$1/per ton COD discount
Dean Hirneisen Lime Spreading
610-775-3454

Incredible Prices !!!

UP TO
60% OFF

SUPER HEAVY STEEL

- Equipment Storage!
- Workshops!

FAST AND SIMPLE TO ERECT!!
NO CRANE NEEDED!!

AVAILABLE MODELS
30 x 50 (2 LEFT) 40 x 64 (3 LEFT)
45 x 80 (2 LEFT) 52 x 100 (1 LEFT)
55 x 120 (2 LEFT)



EXCELLENT FOR HAY AND GRAIN STORAGE



800/825-5059