

NOTICE

Wells Township supervisors will hold the regular monthly meeting on Monday, December 1, 2008. Meeting will be at 7:00 p.m., at 906 Ford Road, Wells Tannery, Pa.
 Karole S. Barton, Sec.
 11-27-11

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF THE 39TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA - FULTON COUNTY BRANCH

In Re: Change of Name of No. 008-C BRANDON ESTON JONES: to BRANDON ESTON STEWART:

that on November 18, 2008, the Petition of Brandon Eston Jones was filed in the above-named court praying for a decree to change the name of Brandon Eston Jones to Brandon Eston Stewart.

The court has fixed Tuesday, January 6, 2009, at 1:00 o'clock p.m., in the Fulton County Courthouse, McConnellsburg, Pa., as the time and place for the hearing on said petition when and where all persons interested may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the petition should not be granted.

James M. Schall, Esquire
 Attorney for Petitioner
 119 North Second Street
 McConnellsburg, Pa. 17233
 11-27-11

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SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FY 2008-2009 BROADBAND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (BTPA)

Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission (SAP&DC) is conducting a grant program to assist municipalities, communities and nonprofit economic development organizations throughout the Southern Alleghenies Region of Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon and Somerset counties with technology development assistance to increase broadband deployment and make Internet services more accessible to residents. Assistance will be provided through project grants for community wireless Internet deployment such as public Wi-Fi.

Applications are due to no later than **4:00 p.m., Friday, January 30, 2009.** An information session will be held at the Devorris Center for Business Development on Thursday, December 4, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. If you are interested in applying for your municipality or community or to RSVP for the information session, contact Michael Reigh at 814-949-6740 or e-mail mreigh@sapdc.org. The application and guidelines are also available at www.sapdc.org. Just follow the link on the home page.

11-27-11

www.fultoncountynews.com

DEEDS RECORDED

The following deeds were recorded at the local courthouse during the past week. State tax stamps affixed to deeds indicate one percent of the purchase price or of the fair market value:

Robert J. Hiquet and Kristina A. Lawyer by Sheriff Keith Stains to U.S. Bank National Association trustee of Credit Suisse 1st Boston Mtg. Securities Corp. in Wells Township, \$23.46 in tax stamps.

Audrey F. Gunnell Lohr by Grace J. Gunnell to Steven J. Weller in Todd Township, \$1,620 in tax stamps.

Sara S. Huston by Deborah H. Sprague and Jeffrey A. Huston to Deborah H. Sprague in Licking Creek Township, tax exempt.

Methodist Episcopal Church of McConnellsburg by trustees Ricky E. Marshall, Larry J. Cordell, Debra A. Buterbaugh, Kimberly K. Keaton, George S. Hann Jr., Eugene M. Stenger, Dennis G. Richards, Michael L. Glessner and Wendy R. Mellott to trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of McConnellsburg in McConnellsburg Borough, tax exempt.

Crystal Spring LLC to William Charles Stanfield IV and Joann Marie Stanfield in Brush Creek Township, \$1,250 in tax stamps.

Charles P. Youse by Helen P. Youse and Helen P. Youse to Helen P. Youse in Belfast Township, tax exempt.

Ike G. Wrights and Sherry L.

Wrights to Austin Frederick Gunnell III and Kathleen Gunnell in Licking Creek Township, \$3,600 in tax stamps.

Richard Clingerman and Angela Clingerman to Richard W. Clingerman and Angela D. Clingerman in Union Township, tax exempt.

Loretta Anne Van Horn to Duane B. Luzier and Kelly S. Luzier in Taylor Township, \$1,280 in tax stamps.

Larry Paul Morris and Patsy A. Morris to Larry Paul Morris and Patsy A. Morris in Brush Creek Township, tax exempt.

Sarah B. Hawkins and Charles G. Cook to Michael G. Hawkins and Karen L. Hawkins in Taylor Township, \$450 in tax stamps.

Hazel A. Cutchall to Kathy A. Stevens and Craig F. Stevens in Todd Township, tax exempt.

New Mad-Cow Rule Poses Health Dangers Of Its Own

By Michael Rubinkam
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER
 LITTTZ, Pa. (AP) - A federal regulation aimed at preventing mad cow disease from getting into the food supply could create health risks of its own: many thousands of cattle carcasses rotting on farms, spreading germs, attracting vermin and polluting the water.

At issue is a Food and Drug Administration rule, set to take effect in April, that will prohibit the use of the brains and spinal cords of older cattle as ingredients in livestock feed and pet food.

Some of the rendering plants that grind up carcasses for use in feed have already announced they will stop accepting dead cattle from farms because it would be too costly to remove the banned organs. Other renderers are likely to raise the prices they charge farmers.

As a result, many farmers - especially now, with the economy in crisis - may simply bury dead cattle on their property or let them rot in the open, industry officials and regulators say.

"I think there will be some illegal disposal - animals that get dragged into the woods or into the back fields," said Gerald F. Smith Jr., president of Winchester, Va.-based Valley Proteins Inc., which operates 12 rendering plants in seven states but will no longer remove dead cattle from farms come February. He said the fee per animal would have to go from \$85 to \$200 to cover the additional expense, and "I don't think the farmers would be willing to pay."

Farmers already routinely bury, abandon or compost millions of cattle carcasses each year without serious environmental problems, according to the FDA.

But the fear is that the new rule could lead farmers to put hundreds of thousands more dead animals into the ground, especially on dairy farms, which tend to have many more older cows than cattle ranches do, and are often closer to populated areas, too.

According to the FDA's own environmental assessment of the new rule, abandoning dead cattle or improperly burying or composting them can cause foul odors; pollute soil, groundwater and streams; and attract insects and scavengers. Moreover, the infectious agent that carries mad cow disease may survive burial or composting, the agency said.

"In some areas of the country ... adverse environmental impacts could be expected unless new disposal capacity is developed," the FDA said.

Thomas Glanville, an agricultural engineering professor at Iowa State University, said farmers who opt for burial will need to pick sites with favorable drainage and geology to avoid contaminating groundwater and soil.

For decades, farmers have sent

their dead cows to rendering plants to be turned into pet food, soaps, cosmetics, toothpaste, lubricants and other products. The carcasses are ground to a uniform particle size, heated under pressure to separate fat, protein and bone, and then refined.

The FDA regulation is aimed at providing an added layer of protection against mad cow, a brain disease that has been linked to more than 150 human deaths worldwide, mostly in Britain. Scientists believe the human version of mad cow is transmitted when people eat tainted beef. The United States has had no known human cases linked to U.S. beef.

Nearly 2 million head of beef and dairy cattle annually, or more than 40 percent of all those that die before they can be sent to slaughter, are rendered in the U.S., according to government and industry estimates. The remaining carcasses are mostly buried.

Regulators estimate the new feed ban will reduce the number of cattle handled by rendering plants by 500,000 to 800,000 annually.

Some farmers will be hamstringed by state or local regulations that limit burial or composting, in which the carcass is left to decay in a pile of clippings and other organic material. Iowa, for instance, limits the number of cattle carcasses that can be buried to seven per acre. California prohibits composting of dead livestock.

Still, properly done, composting is a good alternative to rendering, experts say.

Dairy farmer Tim Forry said he began composting his 1,200-pound Holstein cows about two years ago after the cost of sending them to the rendering plant got out of hand. When a cow dies on his farm in Pennsylvania Dutch country, he dumps the carcass onto a 200-foot-long compost pile behind his barn, where dozens of dead cattle are slowly decaying in a steaming, aboveground tomb of manure, wood shavings, hay and leaves.

"I can't say I've noticed any odor at all coming off of this," he said.

Glenn Stoltzfus, 42, a dairy farmer with 500 cows in Pennsylvania, said he has been composting cows for years without a problem, although a bear or coyote will occasionally dig up a carcass, and "then there's not a very pleasant odor."

Other farmers, though, drag dead calves into the woods and leave them for scavengers, Stoltzfus said. "You'll see the turkey buzzards circling," he said. "It's not a very pleasant thing. A large cow, you don't want to do that with."

Tom Craig, 60, who runs a 1,000-cow dairy farm near State College, said he is not sure how he will dispose of his dead livestock if rendering is no longer an option. Housing developments border his 1,600-acre farm, and he said the neighbors may not take kindly to a compost pile.

"You don't want to have that next to somebody's house," he said.

The U.S. banned the feeding of bovine byproducts to cattle in 1997, but regulators say that didn't eliminate the risk of mad cow. Without the new rule, pigs and chickens could eat contaminated feed and then in turn be rendered and fed to cattle.

Because younger cattle are believed to pose almost no risk of mad cow, only the brains and spinal cords of cattle 21/2 years and older will be prohibited from animal feed. The FDA rule is expected to affect the dairy industry more than the beef industry because most beef cattle are slaughtered before they turn 21/2.

In Pennsylvania, the No. 5 milk-producing state, hundreds of farmers have attended recent workshops on composting. Agriculture officials also plan to mail an informational brochure to livestock farmers. The idea, said Shelly Dehoff, of Pennsylvania's agricultural ombudsman program, is to "get the word out that there are alternative methods, and legal methods, that do not include throwing an animal out in the woods somewhere, and just expecting it to decompose or have other animals pick away at it."

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Slippery Hill Rd., Shade Gap: 3 BR & BA, well-cared-for home w/fireplace, attic & basmt. Garage. Property borders stream. 5.14 ac. \$170,000 HU6801614



Hemlock Lane, Oak Ridge, McCbg: Nicely wooded 2.53 ac. lot that is perk approved. Recent survey on file. Walk to state gamelands from here. Peaceful setting! \$25,000 FU6068907

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