

LOCAL & STATE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2009

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Farm Show Results Listed

Local results from the PA Farm Show as of Tuesday are as follows:

Elders Branch Farms, Wyatt Karper, Three Springs: third - Limousin summer heifer calves, calved May 1 and after; first - Limousin late spring heifer calves, calved April; first - Limousin reserve champion heifer calf; first - Limousin early spring bull calves, calved March; second - Limousin early spring bull calves, calved March; first - Limousin champion bull calf; first - Limousin reserve champion bull calf; first - Limousin reserve grand champion bull; first - Limousin late spring heifer calves, calved April (Jr. Limousin).

Brittany Truax, Hustontown: second - Mainetainer late spring yearling heifers, calved April; first - Mainetainer late spring yearling heifers, calved April; first - Mainetainer grand champion heifer; eighth - purebred duroc medium weight swine; second - junior crossbred market lambs; second - young shepherd skil-lathon division IV; first - jr. market lamb skil-lathon, division IV; fourth - market goat weight division 4.

Steven Meyer, Warfordsburg: sixth - crossbred market swine.

Megan Keller, Waterfall: third - junior crossbred market lambs; tenth - young shepherd skil-lathon division II; second - jr. market lamb skil-lathon division II; ninth - market goat weight division 6.

Free FAFSA Workshop Here

PHEAA's South Central Pennsylvania Regional Office will offer a free instructional program on completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) from 10 a.m.-noon on Sat., Jan. 24, 2009, in the cafeteria of McConnellsburg High School.

"January is the first month that students can begin submitting their completed FAFSA," notes PHEAA Regional Director Bruce Diefenderfer. "The FAFSA requires information from both students and parents and can be somewhat challenging to navigate, especially for first-time applicants.

Filing the FAFSA by the earliest deadlines will ensure that students are maximizing their ability for financial aid. The deadline for submitting the FAFSA for consideration for the Pennsylvania State Grant is May 1 for all new and renewal applicants who plan to enroll in an undergraduate baccalaureate degree program and those in college transfer programs at two-year public or junior colleges.

For first-time applicants who plan to enroll in a business, trade or technical school, a hospital school of nursing, or a two-year terminal (nontransferable two-year degree) program at a community, junior or four-year college, the state grant deadline or submitting the FAFSA is August 1, immediately preceding the academic year.

The FAFSA can also be completed online by visiting <http://www.pheaa.org/fafsa>.



Southern Fulton music teacher Dan Meredith goes over a quick refresher with third grade students on the ins and outs of the Yamaha keyboarding system that gives them hands-on experience in learning different music concepts.

Students Get Hands-On Musical Experience

SF's music curriculum gets boost from "Yamaha" keyboarding program

By Chanin Rotz-Mountz
STAFF WRITER

After 20 years of utilizing the same textbooks, longtime music teacher Dan Meredith wanted to start off this school year at Southern Fulton on a fresh new note - literally.

Armed with information obtained at a recent state music teachers' conference, Meredith successfully pitched the idea of implementing a nationwide concept at Southern Fulton known as Yamaha in Music Education. The system allows students to experience firsthand the various concepts of beats, melody, harmony, pitch and tempo through navigating their own state-of-the-art keyboard, thereby allowing them to be active participants instead of onlookers.

In existence for well over

20 years nationwide, Meredith stated the implementation of the Yamaha program in grades kindergarten through sixth at Southern Fulton has been well received by the student body. In fact, the interest has been so great, a possibility could exist in expanding the program to the entire middle school level.

Each of the district's 15 student keyboards, which are designed and built for more rugged use, are equipped with two sets of headphones as well as a removable plate, allowing the station to convert from two users to one. The curriculum, Meredith indicated, is completely written by Yamaha and has been easily adapted to fit his former textbook curriculum.

"The system allows students to work collaboratively with a partner or by themselves," said Meredith, who noted muted speakers and headphones further allow students to work quietly on their own while being monitored through a nearby computer by their instructor. Quizzes can be taken indi-

vidually at the conclusion of each lesson plan with the results computed and logged in the computer system. Feedback is automatically given to each student through headphones at the completion of each quiz in hopes of bettering future results.

"I'm impressed with the progress I've seen thus far. The challenge, however, has been starting each grade at the same level of instruction," Meredith stated.

Even though Meredith has been impressed with the reaction and positive response from all seven grade levels, the benefits are already evident among his students - even those with reading difficulties who may have had problems reading music and learning words to a song.

"We're not teaching kids piano lessons. Our kids are learning firsthand about pitch, tempo and other musical concepts," concluded Meredith. "The kids are picking up songs faster and are better at singing on pitch by using these techniques."

Commissioners

Bonnie Keefer To Continue Heading County Board

3.5 percent salary increase approved

By Chanin Rotz-Mountz
STAFF WRITER

The general structure of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners will remain unchanged in 2009 in conjunction with action taken by commissioners Bonnie Mellott Keefer, Daniel Swain Jr. and David Hoover II during their first meeting of the new year.

In gathering Tuesday, January 6, for general office matters and reorganization issues, the commissioners were unanimous in their decision for Keefer and Swain to continue serving in the respective capacity of chair and vice chair of the board. In addition, longtime employee Richard Wible will once again serve as secretary to the board of Fulton County commissioners.

Unless otherwise advertised, the board along with the Fulton County Retirement Board, Fulton County Salary Board and the Board of Assessment and Appeals will continue to meet every Tuesday starting at 8:30 a.m. in the commissioners' office located at 116 West Market Street, McConnellsburg.

Appointments approved during the reorganization process of the meeting include: solicitor Stanley Kerlin, chief clerk Richard Wible, Tax Claim Bureau Director Monica Seville, chief assessor Michelle Sowers, Chief of Weights & Measures - the PA Department of Ag, Director of Veterans' Affairs Ed Stenger, Public Defender Tamela Bard, engineer-Keller Engineer and EMA/911 Director Vince Joyce.

Furthermore, Human Services Administrator Jean Snyder was appointed by the commissioners to serve on the Drug & Alcohol Advisory Board, while technology director Eldon Martin will serve on the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission. Seleen Shives of the Conservation District will serve as a county representative on the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy Board.

The commissioners divided their participation on a series of county and out-of-county boards into the following:

- Southern Alleghenies (SA) Planning & Development Commission, commissioners Swain and Hoover
- Drug & Alcohol Advisory Board, Commissioner Hoover
- Fulton Behavioral Health Focus Board, Commissioner Keefer
- RC&D Council, Commissioner Hoover alternate member
- Center for Community Services, Commissioner Hoover
- EMA Local Planning Committee, Commissioner Keefer
- Area Agency on Aging Board, all three commissioners
- Tri-County Solid Waste Board, all three commissioners
- Economic Development Corp., all three commissioners
- Center for Families Advisory Board, Commissioner Hoover
- Fulton County Human Services Council, Commissioner Keefer
- Fulton County Partnership Board, all three commissioners
- SA Rural Transportation Committee, Commissioner Hoover
- SA Finance Committee, Commissioner Swain
- SA Community Economic Strategy Committee, Commissioner Swain
- SA Personnel Committee, Commissioner Hoover
- Criminal Justice Advisory Board/Intermediate Punishment Board, all three commissioners
- Mental Health/Mental Retardation, Commissioner Hoover
- Pandemic Planning, Commissioner Keefer
- County Records Improvement Committee, all three commissioners
- Retirement Board, all three commissioners
- STOP Grant Committee, Commissioner Keefer
- Election Board, all three commissioners
- Assessment Appeals Board, all three commissioners
- Salary Board, all three commissioners
- VOCA Grant Board, Commissioner Keefer
- Tuscarora Managed Care, commissioners Keefer and Swain

• Services for Children Advisory Board, Commissioner Keefer

The commissioners held multiple meetings with department heads as the Salary Board to discuss salary increases for employees within their departments. Deputy coroners under coroner Darryl Heckman are slated to receive a 3.5 percent salary increase effective January 5. Other department heads who were scheduled to discuss the approved increase with the commissioners were District Attorney Travis Kendall, prothonotary Patty Fix and sheriff Keith Stains.

The commissioners met with Kevin Strait of the maintenance department regarding his possible assistance with interior renovations in county offices. Business manger Tim Stanton will coordinate with Strait on what areas need modified. The most pressing area needing attention at this time, according to the commissioners, is the relocation of the probation office employees.

A reimbursement request in the amount of \$4,487.99 will be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. The overall amount includes a federal share of 80 percent, and an additional 20 percent in state/local share. The reimbursement will be earmarked for expenditures associated with the preliminary engineering costs from Keller Engineers for the JLG turning lane project.

This week the commissioners signed a cooperative agreement for the 2009 gypsy moth suppression program in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Through the residential spray program, 1,364 acres will be sprayed in the county this spring.

Several requests for payments were signed and approved as submitted as part of the Fulton County Library renovation project. Monies in the amount of \$75,120.22 will be paid to Eagle Construction Co.; Rodney B. Smith Plumbing, Heating and Cooling; and R&S Electric.

Following a meeting with Edward Silvetti, executive director of the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, the board authorized the following individuals to serve as "at-large" members of the commission's board: Jay Cessna, Bedford; Sharon Clapper, Meyersdale; James Lakso, Huntingdon; Dennis J. Munko, Johnstown; Arthur Wilkin Jr., Altoona; and Heather Meck, Loretto.

The commissioners signed an agreement with Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC for the completion of a compliance audit of the Medical Assistance Transportation Program for the years ending June 30, 2006, 2007 and 2008. The firm will complete the audit at a cost of \$2,350. The program is run by the Fulton County Partnership.

Edward Stenger, Veterans Affairs director, discussed various aspects of his job title and description with the commissioners.

PSPCA Says Protect Pets From Cold

Winter's deep freeze has hit the commonwealth and the Pennsylvania SPCA (PSPCA) reminds pet owners to protect their pets from the cold and bring them inside. A dog or cat's fur coat doesn't mean that it can survive if left outdoors in the cold.

If you see an animal left outside or in a cold car for a prolonged period of time, contact the PSPCA's toll-free cruelty reporting hotline, 1-866-601-SPCA. A PSPCA law enforcement agent will investigate the call to protect an animal in danger.



Krom Announces Judicial Candidacy Here

Makes formal announcement at American Legion Monday

By Chanin Rotz-Mountz
STAFF WRITER

Angela Rosenberry Krom became the third candidate to join the race for the Fulton/Franklin County Court of Common Pleas Monday afternoon, issuing a formal announcement at the American Legion.

Before a crowd of local elect-

ed officials and area residents, Krom, a Franklin County native and assistant district attorney for 12 years, stated, "I know that the people of Fulton County are just learning to know me. When you do get to know me, you'll learn that I care deeply about my community. My love for our community, my enthusiasm for the law and my passion for the courtroom are the only motivation I need to serve the people of Fulton and Franklin counties as a judge, handling all cases coming before me with fairness, integrity and common sense."

Krom is one of several candidates to announce their candidacy in recent weeks for two judicial seats in the 39th Judicial. In addition to Krom, Shawn Meyers and Tim Wilmot have already publicly announced their intentions to compete in the judicial race. Fellow attorney Eric Weisbrod will make his announcement this Thursday.

Krom is the daughter of Sue and Ron Rosenberry, grew up in the Chambersburg area and graduated from both Elizabethtown College and Dickinson School of Law, located in Carlisle. She currently resides in Waynesboro with her husband, Randy, and 4-year-old son Riley.

Backed at her announcement by Jack Nelson, campaign chairman and Franklin County district attorney, Krom detailed her duties in neighboring Franklin County over the last 13 years. Among the cases prosecuted have been criminal homicides, juvenile offenders, domestic violence and sexual assaults.

"I have advocated for the rights of victims and have given a voice in the courtroom to victims of all types of crimes," Krom said. "... I have loved every minute of my work in the Franklin County District Attorney's Office. From my work on the most routine driving-under-the-influence cases to the most challenging first-degree murder case, it has been an incredibly



Angela Krom

rewarding and enriching career that has uniquely prepared me for this next fantastic opportunity."

"I want to be your next judge because I know based on my experiences over the last dozen years how important good judges are to the communities they serve," concluded Krom. "... I know that if I am given the opportunity, I will be the kind of judge the people of Fulton and Franklin counties will be proud of - A judge who always rules with fairness, integrity and common sense - a judge who rules with compassion - when the situation calls for it, and with toughness and firmness - when the situation demands it - yet never, ever losing sight of who I am or where I come from."

Krom's announcement in McConnellsburg was followed up by additional announcements in Chambersburg and Waynesboro, Franklin County. Anyone needing additional information on Krom's campaign for office prior to the May 19 spring primary can contact campaign manager Rhonda Myers at 717-642-9311 or log onto the candidate's Web site at www.AngelaKromforJudge.com.

Is there a Wedding in your Future?

Did you receive the much anticipated RING during the holidays?

The Fulton County Chamber of Commerce & Tourism
Invites you to the
2nd Annual
Fulton County Bridal Expo
Sunday ~ January 18, 2009
2:00 p.m.
Bridal Fashion Show ~ 2:30 p.m.
American Legion
McConnellsburg, PA

The fine businesses of Fulton County
are ready and able to help you plan your dream wedding!

FLORISTS	Invitations	Gowns
CATERERS	Ceremony Sites	
Photography	Legal Services	HONEYMOON SITES
DJ/Video	Real Estate	GIFTS